

THE AMERICAN Legion

www.legion.org

\$2.50 OCTOBER 2015

The magazine for a strong America

OUR WAR
A SPECIAL REPORT
THE POST-9/11 VETERAN

DESPERATION **TO** INSPIRATION

**NOAH
GALLOWAY**

New veterans on campus

Funding the vetrepreneur

VA AND THE POST-9/11 WAVE

PLUS: Meet American Legion
National Commander Dale Barnett

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY SINCE 1919





USAA is proud to be the
Preferred Provider
of Insurance and Financial Services
to The American Legion

The Medicare Annual Election Period Starts October 15.

When it comes to Medicare, each year's Annual Election Period may offer an opportunity to save money and broaden your coverage.

If the thought of making a significant change to your coverage makes you queasy, take heart. Doing just a little bit of homework may save you big bucks, and maybe even a few headaches, when the changes take effect Jan. 1, 2016.

➤ **Let's take a closer look at what you can do.**

➤ **Change to or from a Medicare Advantage plan.** With a Medicare Advantage plan (known as Part C), you normally pay a monthly premium and receive your Medicare (Parts A & B) benefits through a private insurer. These plans may give you extra coverage (dental, prescriptions, etc.) and help you pay less out-of-pocket than if you just went with Parts A & B.

Since the coverage provided by these plans can vary widely, as can your annual out-of-pocket expenses, it pays to shop around. A bit of research can help you choose an approved physician and avoid the hassle of restrictions. If choosing your physicians is important to you, Medicare Parts A & B — paired with a Medicare Supplement insurance product — may be the ideal solution for you.

➤ **Switch from one Medicare Advantage plan to another.** Even if you already have a Medicare Advantage plan, you may find one that serves your needs better. You could select a higher-rated plan or move to one that offers lower monthly premiums, co-payments or a lower annual out-of-pocket cap.

You may find a plan that adds additional coverage — such as prescription drugs, dental or vision — your current plan doesn't offer. This is helpful because what might have been the "right" plan for you last year may not be the right plan for you now. Ideally, you could find the same or better coverage you have today with lower overall costs.

➤ **Join, drop or change a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan (PDP).** With a PDP (known as Part D), you may join, drop or change plans if you have basic Medicare. If you want to add a PDP or explore PDP options, the Annual Election Period provides the opportunity. While general PDP rules are the same for all insurers, there can be significant differences between plans.

Keep in mind, PDP monthly premiums, deductibles, co-payments and even restrictions on individual drugs may vary.

To help choose a PDP that's best for you, make a list of your medications and spend some time with the Plan Finder

tool at medicare.gov. You can enter your medications and compare deductibles, co-payments and overall estimated costs as well as ratings of different plans.

Most people find the Plan Finder calculator surprisingly easy to use. The goal: Find the best coverage and costs for your particular prescription regimen.

Health-care costs can add up quickly if you don't have the right coverage. But don't be

intimidated. Instead, be proactive and do your homework. Come January, you can enjoy some peace of mind.



The preceding material is for informational purposes and subject to change without notice. We believe the websites and resources we used to gather this information are reliable; however, we cannot guarantee the accuracy or timeliness of the information. Neither USAA nor any affiliates are associated with or endorsed by these websites and resources.

We can help with Medicare choices.

Medicare Annual Election Period Deadline: Dec. 7, 2015.¹

Your financial stability can depend on you making informed Medicare choices. We're dedicated to helping make sure you and your family have the health insurance you need. Turn to us for the highly rated service and guidance you've come to expect.

★ **Turn to us for help. 800-292-8069**

Call an agent/producer weekdays, 7:30 a.m.–8 p.m. CT.
TTY users, dial 711.



For more information regarding all available Annual Election Period opportunities, please visit <http://medicare.gov>.

¹ Annual Election Period applies only to Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug Plans and does not apply to Medicare Supplement Insurance plans.

Medicare solutions provided by USAA Life Insurance Company, San Antonio, TX, and through USAA Life General Agency, Inc. (LGA) (known in CA and NY as USAA Health and Life Insurance Agency), which acts as an agent for select insurance companies to provide products for USAA members. LGA representatives are salaried and receive no commissions. However, LGA receives compensation from those companies, which may be based on the total quantity and quality of insurance coverage purchased through LGA. Plans are not available in all states. Each company has sole financial responsibility for its own products. The American Legion receives financial support from USAA for this sponsorship. © 2015 USAA. 221085-0915



Legion

contents

October 2015 • Vol. 179, No. 4

ON THE COVER

Noah Galloway, an Iraq combat veteran, uses his newfound celebrity to help other injured veterans. He and his fiancée, Jamie Boyd, reside near his hometown of Alabaster, Ala. *Photo by Lucas Carter*

5 **Vet Voice**

8 **I Am The American Legion**

10 **Big Issues**

12 **Living Well**

16 **Veterans Update**

54 **Rapid Fire**

70 **Comrades**

72 **Parting Shots**

HEAVY HITTERS

Ryan Bier of the Omaha, Neb., Fifty-Two's Patriots receives a regional championship medal from National Americanism Chairman Rich Anderson following the team's 15-1 loss to Brooklawn, N.J., during the American Legion World Series on Aug. 15.

Photo by Clay Lonneth

18 Relentless Forward Progress

Noah Galloway overcame severe war injuries and depression to re-embrace fitness, dance with the stars and inspire America. *By Henry Howard*

30 The Post-9/11 Student Veteran

Veterans discover that they are often their own best advocates on campus. *By Andy Romey*

32 Veterans Funding Veterans

StreetShares connects entrepreneurs with loans, mixing technology and Main Street service. *By Henry Howard*

40 The Moral Contract

VA entered the 21st century unprepared for a new wave of veterans. As the situation worsened, its challenge remains to regain trust. *By Ken Olsen*

46 All-American

Meet Dale Barnett of Georgia, West Point grad and the Legion's new national commander. *By Matt Grills*

52 Outnumbered

Life has many price tags, but financial planning can help you achieve your goals. *By J.J. Montanaro*

The American Legion Magazine, a leader among national general-interest publications, is published monthly by The American Legion for its 2.3 million members. These wartime veterans, working through 14,000 community-level posts, dedicate themselves to God and Country and traditional American values; strong national security; adequate and compassionate care for veterans, their widows and orphans; community service; and the wholesome development of our nation's youth.



NOTICE TO VETERANS WITH MESOTHELIOMA

**WHEN TRAINING,
EXPERIENCE AND
A STEADY HAND
REALLY COUNT,
TURN TO A
FELLOW VETERAN.**



As former sailors and Marines, we served together yesterday. As seasoned attorneys, my firm and I will fight for you today. Attorneys at Coady Law Firm have successfully represented veterans in mesothelioma claims nationwide for more than two decades. We've helped veterans understand their rights—and secured millions for their families in just compensation.

Trust in the experience and commitment of a shipmate who served with you. Contact the Coady Law Firm. Receive a **FREE**, no-obligation consultation.



Bud Coady

*Harvard, 1979
USMC, 1979-89, 1991
Gulf War Veteran
Attorney at Law*

\$30 Billion

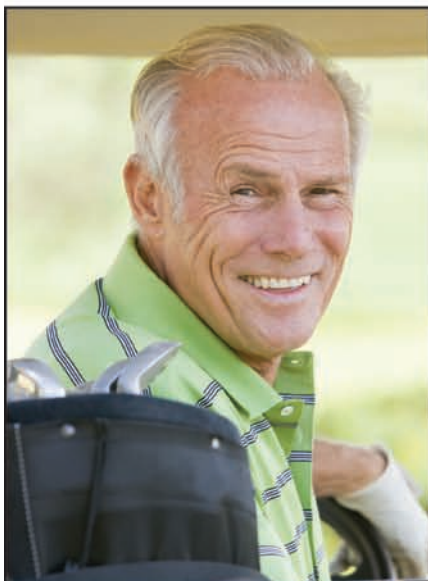
**FROM U.S. COMPENSATION
TRUST FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR
VETERANS WHO QUALIFY**

**Call 1-888-802-MESO (6376)
TO DETERMINE YOUR ELIGIBILITY.**

205 Portland Street • Boston, MA 02114 • Web: www.coadylaw.com

COADY

LAW FIRM



What Adult Diaper Companies Don't Want Men To Know . . .

“Health risks and high out-of-pocket costs . . . men are unaware of Liberty's healthier alternative!”

“Men's Liberty is terrific. I can keep doing what I want to do, without having to worry about running to the bathroom or changing my clothes. It is a Godsend.” - John in Michigan



Covered by Medicare!

Millions of men spend thousands of dollars each year on diapers, which are not covered by Medicare. These men are paying as much as \$300 out of pocket each month... Men's Liberty is covered by Medicare, most state Medicaids, VA/Tricare and most private insurance plans.

Ask if you qualify to receive Men's Liberty. We handle all claims and billing to Medicare and your Insurance provider.

www.MensLiberty.com

The Diaper Dilemma

Urinary incontinence affects more than 4 million men in the United States of all ages. Diapers trap moisture, causing UTIs, discomfort and injury rates up to 38%.

Men's Liberty Alternative

There has not been a confirmed UTI or serious skin injury caused by Men's Liberty, after **more than one million sold**. This is a non-invasive, external product that allows men to improve their lifestyle at work and quality of time with family.

CALL TODAY!

1-800-814-3259

PROMO CODE:
AML1015

Hablamos Español



THE AMERICAN Legion MAGAZINE

NATIONAL COMMANDER	Dale Barnett
PUBLISHER	The American Legion
EDITOR	Jeff Stoffer
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS	Henry Howard
MANAGING EDITOR	Matt Grills
ASSOCIATE EDITOR	Laura Edwards
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	Julie Campbell Jennifer Harman
SOCIAL MEDIA EDITOR	Steve Brooks
DISPATCH EDITOR	Cameron Richardson
ASSISTANT WEB EDITOR	Andrew Romey
BURNPIT EDITOR	Mark Seavey
VISUAL TEAM MANAGER	Holly K. Soria
MEDIA DESIGN SPECIALIST	Celesta Török-Lee
SR.VISUAL MEDIA SPECIALIST	Lucas Carter
VISUAL MEDIA SPECIALIST	Clay Lomneth
PRODUCTION MANAGER	Tony Heath
CONTRIBUTING EDITOR	Alan W. Dowd
MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION	
CHAIRMAN	Benedict A. Lee, <i>Calabash, N.C.</i>
VICE CHAIRMAN	James C. Morris, <i>Cardington, Ohio</i>
COMMANDER'S REPRESENTATIVE	Terry D. Lewis, <i>Philadelphia</i>
CONSULTANTS	Jerilyn Strande, <i>Cottonwood, Ariz.</i> Rodger A. Bennett, <i>Thawville, Ill.</i> Albert W. Coughlin, <i>Park Ridge, Ill.</i> Robert A. Corrigan, <i>Bronx, N.Y.</i>
MEMBERS	Roger H. Anderson, <i>South Windsor, Conn.</i> Richard A. Baxter, <i>Palisade, Neb.</i> Henry P. Bradley, <i>North Quincy, Mass.</i> Fae Casper, <i>Douglasville, Ga.</i> Thomas A. Fernlund, <i>St. Cloud, Minn.</i> John J. Gasper, <i>Archbald, Pa.</i> Paul L. Greer, <i>Leesville, La.</i> James H. Hall, <i>Hopewell, N.J.</i> Robert W. Hensley, <i>Mountain City, Tenn.</i> James Huls, <i>Madison, S.D.</i> Paul M. Kennedy, <i>Pittsburgh</i> Doug Malin, <i>West Haverstraw, N.Y.</i> Larry J. Marcouillier, <i>Harrington, Del.</i> Silas M. Noel, <i>Frankfort, Ky.</i> Willis J. Pritchard, <i>Oakess, N.D.</i> Marvin C. Rodney, <i>Alexandria, Va.</i> Shelli Romeu, <i>Tampa, Fla.</i> David E. Shafer, <i>Dixon, Mo.</i> David L. Sharber, <i>Mount Vernon, Ind.</i> Terri L. Shelefoniuk, <i>Lakewood, Colo.</i> George J. Sinkewitz, <i>Huntington, W.Va.</i> Jerry J. Smith, <i>Trussville, Ala.</i> Edwin R. Strain, <i>Heber Springs, Ark.</i> Frank C. Ward, <i>Greer, S.C.</i> Danny K. Wiley, <i>Leavenworth, Kan.</i>
NEC LIAISON COMMITTEE	Randall Coffman <i>Chairman, Russellville, Ky.</i> Hugh E. Crooks Jr., <i>Los Angeles</i> Charles W. Goodin, <i>Jefferson City, Mo.</i> John W. Hargraves, <i>Farmingdale, Maine</i> Steven M. Jimmo, <i>Chicopee, Mass.</i> Mickey C. Taylor, <i>Myrtle Beach, S.C.</i>
ADVERTISING	
ADVERTISING MANAGER	Diane Andretti
ASSISTANT	
ADVERTISING MANAGER	Chris Elliot
CONTACT	The American Legion Magazine P.O. Box 7068 Indianapolis, IN 46207
ADVERTISING SALES	James G. Elliott Company, Inc. (212) 588-9200
NEW YORK	(248) 530-0300
DETROIT	(312) 236-4900
CHICAGO	(213) 624-0900
LOS ANGELES	

Copyright 2015 by The American Legion

The American Legion (ISSN 0886-1234) is published monthly by The American Legion, 5745 Lee Road, Indianapolis, IN 46216. Periodicals postage paid at Indianapolis, IN 46204 and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The American Legion, Data Services, P.O. Box 1954, Indianapolis, IN 46206.
Canada Post International Publications Mail (Canadian Distribution) Sales Agreement No. PM40063731. Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to: Station A, P.O. Box, Windsor ON N9A 6J5. Re-entered second-class mail matter at Manila Central Post Office dated Dec. 22, 1991.



Printed in USA
Member Audit Bureau of Circulations

The Magazine for a Strong America

HOW TO CONTACT US

ADDRESS CHANGES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

CUSTOMER SERVICE (800) 433-3318
cs@legion.org
The American Legion
Data Services
P.O. Box 1954
Indianapolis, IN 46206

For change of address by mail, attach old address label, provide new address and membership number.

ARTICLE PROPOSALS

MAGAZINE (317) 630-1272
magazine@legion.org

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS (317) 630-1200
700 N. Pennsylvania St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204

AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE
P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206
magazine@legion.org

EMAIL magazine@legion.org

TELEPHONE (317) 630-1298

WEBSITE www.legion.org

SUBSCRIPTIONS Free with membership
Non-members: \$15
Foreign: \$21
Post-sponsored and widows: \$6
Single copies: \$3.50

MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN LEGION

Veterans who served at least one day of active military duty during wartime, or are serving now, are potentially eligible for membership in The American Legion. Members must have been honorably discharged or still serving honorably.

ELIGIBILITY Aug 2, 1990 – current
DATES OF Dec. 20, 1989 – Jan. 31, 1990
MILITARY Aug. 24, 1982 – July 31, 1984

SERVICE Feb. 28, 1961 – May 7, 1975
June 25, 1950 – Jan. 31, 1955
Dec. 7, 1941 – Dec. 31, 1946
April 6, 1917 – Nov 11, 1918
(Merchant Marines who served from Dec. 7, 1941 to Dec. 31, 1946, are also eligible.)

TO JOIN Membership Division
ia@legion.org
(317) 630-1321
www.legion.org

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION (202) 861-2700
va&r@legion.org

VETERANS EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT 202.861.2700
ve&e@legion.org

FAMILY SUPPORT NETWORK (800) 504-4098
familysupport@legion.org

CITIZENS FLAG ALLIANCE (317) 630-1384
cfa@cfa-inc.org
www.legion.org/flag

LEGION RIDERS (317) 630-1265
www.legion.org/riders
legionriders@legion.org

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL (317) 630-1249
baseball@legion.org
www.legion.org/baseball

BOYS NATION (317) 630-1207
boysstate-nation@legion.org

JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS (317) 630-1249
juniorshooting@legion.org

NATIONAL ORATORICAL CONTEST (317) 630-1249
oratorical@legion.org

USAA (877) 699-2654
www.usaa.com/legion

BLOOD PROGRAM (202) 263-2993
www.legion.org/security/blood

SCHOLARSHIPS & CHARITABLE TRUSTS

AMERICAN LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP (317) 630-1212
scholarships@legion.org

AMERICAN LEGION ENDOWMENT FUND (317) 630-1202

CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION (317) 630-1202
www.cwf-inc.org

NATIONAL EMERGENCY FUND (317) 630-1376
ia@legion.org

AMERICAN LEGION MERCHANDISE

ORDER PLACEMENT AND CATALOG REQUESTS (888) 453-4466
emblem@legion.org
emblem@legion.org

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY (317) 569-4500
www.legion.org/auxiliary
SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION (317) 630-1200
www.legion.org/sons



'Freedom's Fighters'

Congratulations to Larry Alexander for his excellent article (August), in which he makes the point that our armed forces fought so well in World War II in large part because they knew they could count on the support of the American people back home. To quote Alexander, "For the first time, but hopefully not the last, the entire nation joined hands in a cause much larger than ourselves: freedom for the peoples of the world."

— Paul Hoylen, Deming, N.M.

Many of us entered the service between August 1945 and the official end of World War II on Dec. 31, 1946. Understandably, most of us served in noncombat roles, as did many who served earlier.

Early in 1947 I found the World War II Victory Medal lying on my cot. (No ceremony expected). At the time, I was a recently enlisted 19-year-old in the regular Army serving, as ordered, in the 1st Training Company, Universal Training Experimental Unit, U.S. Army Ground Forces at Fort Knox, Ky. I served the remainder of my enlistment with the 716th Military Police Battalion.

I am sure there are many others who are proud of their service during those 15 months. They too are World War II veterans.

— Bob Blahnik, Tucker, Ga.

I nearly always read my dad's copy of *The American Legion Magazine*, but I particularly

appreciated the article on the World War II veterans. As the granddaughter of one, I am extremely proud of these men and long to see them recognized as the heroes they are. With that in mind, I want to mention an annual event and re-enactment in Linden, Tenn., called "Remembering WWII." Having attended last year (and going back this year), I can attest that the express purpose and goal is to honor these brave elderly gentlemen. God bless our veterans.

— Racheal Parker, Arcadia, Fla.

'The Myths of Nuclear Drawdown'

The article by Alan W. Dowd and Adam Lowther (August) is the most compelling article I have read regarding nuclear armament. They are to be commended in the name of humanity alone. I would like a clearer view of the president's stance on this issue.

— Mathias Serwas, Maggie Valley, N.C.

I was in Strategic Air Command (SAC) from 1959 to 1968, when I got out to go back and finish college. I maintained the radar/computer bomb navigation system on the B-52D model at Fairchild and Glasgow Air Force bases. SAC operated on the mutually assured destruction (MAD) policy, meaning that if Russia and the United States started throwing nukes at each other, not only would those two countries disintegrate but most of the world would not survive either. While we served TDYs and left families behind, I had the utmost respect for the troops on the ground. While we all did our part, those boys and girls sacrificed above and beyond.

— Jim Foster, Kennewick, Wash.

‘Green River Gamble’

I enjoyed the article by Ken Olsen (August). I am a veteran of the Korean conflict but have never been very active in the local post. For the most part, the posts I have visited are just barrooms. I have never taken my family to my local post. Is it stuck in the past, or do we need to move forward and catch the vision of Green River, Wyo.?

— James Ransom, Scottsdale, Ariz.

This article addressed some issues that have been around a long time: specifically, Legion posts being a smoky bar first and a family place last. The Green River concept is a breath of fresh air. Post-9/11 veterans are not the only ones who seek a smoke-free, family environment; plenty of Vietnam-era veterans do too.

— T.V. McDermott, Port Charlotte, Fla.

Military retiree benefits

As far as the retirement benefits discussion is concerned (Commander’s Message, August), a 401(k) plan is being talked about only because it would save money. It is attractive to some folks, but imagine the impact on morale to frontline troops in a battle zone when the stock market takes a dive.

Even forgetting that scenario, why would anyone be egotistical enough to think he can manage his investment better than all the paid professionals doing it for current systems? The least we can do for those who go in harm’s way to protect and defend our country is to ensure an adequate retirement. Giving it to them to manage is a chicken way out. We do, however, need to address a reduced retirement for those who don’t complete 20 years of service. If it was like local government, there would be money set aside each month for a retirement program.

— Gary Wegener, Woodland, Calif.

‘Ups and Downs’

I enjoyed the piece on changes in military spending (Rapid Fire, August). It is great to see simple facts without media “spin.” It is startling that large increases in spending are led by communist China, Islamic UAE and Saudi Arabia, and dictator-led Russia, while the United States lags behind with a decrease. The current administration has consistently weakened our armed forces and shown a total lack of concern, respect and value to our military.

— Ted Listing, Palm Coast, Fla.

‘The Cannabis Question’

I read Ken Olsen’s article about veterans using marijuana to cope with their issues (July). It even had a picture of the veteran smoking weed and then hugging his kid. What a joke. This is exactly what the left wants to see: weakness, not toughness. Smoking drugs like marijuana is wrong. I don’t think the men who died serving in Europe, the Pacific, Vietnam, Beirut, Grenada, Panama, the Gulf War, Somalia, Bosnia or the war on terrorism had this in mind.

I served in the Gulf War with the 3rd Armored Division and am a proud veteran. I now serve my community in Texas as a cop and have for close to a decade. With its high THC levels, marijuana is a gateway to other drugs. It’s illegal in most states and is destroying our country and children. God help us.

— Jeff Purvis, Kerrville, Texas

As a physician, I spent 40 years in private-sector primary care practice. I spent another five years working for VA. There is no difference in the percentage of patients with chronic pain in the private sector versus the veteran population. Here is what is different: in the private sector, we’d use heat, physical therapy and non-narcotic painkillers for the same conditions that are treated with addicting narcotics among veterans. Not good! The addicted veteran usually thinks all is well, but when you talk with family you find out that they too are often living in hell. This has to change.

— John M.R. Kuhn, Schofield, Wis.

THE AMERICAN LEGION MAGAZINE WELCOMES YOUR OPINIONS

Include your hometown and a daytime phone number for verification. All letters published are subject to editing.

Due to the volume of mail received, not every letter can be acknowledged.

The American Legion Magazine, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206
magazine@legion.org



I AM ONE OF MILLIONS
OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE
HEPATITIS C

**FORGET
ME NOT**

Sometimes hepatitis C (Hep C) can feel forgotten. After all, it's slow moving, with symptoms that may not appear for years. No wonder you try to push it to the back of your mind and forget it. But there's something that shouldn't be forgotten. Chronic Hep C is a serious disease that affects over three million people. And if left untreated, it can lead to liver damage and potentially liver cancer.

Here's the good news, you haven't been forgotten. There has never been a better time to rethink your Hep C, because people like you may benefit from scientific advances that could help cure your Hep C. Cure means the virus is not detected in the blood when measured three months after treatment is completed.

Call a **Hep C Educator** at **844-4HepcHope** who will help guide you in preparing a **personalized plan** for a conversation with your **Hep C specialist**. Register for more information at **HepcHope.com**.

844-4HepcHope | **HepcHope.com**



HEP C HOPE, GILEAD, and the GILEAD logo are trademarks of Gilead Sciences, Inc., or its related companies. ©2015 Gilead Sciences, Inc. All rights reserved. UNBC2081 06/15

KEN PERSSON JR.

"If you're going to ask people to join an organization, you've got to give them something to do."



Photo by Bill Schaefer

Watch an interview with Ken Persson Jr. online:

www.legion.org/magazine

See an archive of past interviews:

www.legion.org/iamlegion

In 2011, Ken Persson returned to his home of Lander, Wyo., after 30 years in the military. He thought he'd travel the country on his motorcycle and enjoy retirement.

Instead, the Afghanistan veteran met the woman he'd marry, had a daughter, began helping run his parents' ranch and accepted a job teaching military science at the local high school. He also dove headfirst into The American Legion.

Persson's father, Ken Sr., had just taken over as commander of Post 33. "Dad started pushing the programs, finding out everything we could or should be doing," he says. "He asked if I'd be his first vice commander, and together we started working recruitment and encouraging members to come to meetings."

Attendance went from five to about 25, and Persson moved up to post and district adjutant. In 2015, he was the Department of Wyoming's Adjutant of the Year. Now he's serving as district commander.

For Persson, belonging to the Legion is more than his name on a membership roll. It's about what he can do for youth and his community.

In his classroom and school assemblies, Persson takes every opportunity to promote Boys State, Girls State, the Oratorical Contest and other Legion Family activities. "We work hard to let people know that we're here and that we have great programs," he says.

BRANCH OF SERVICE Wyoming National Guard (1982-1984), Army (1984-2011)

MOS Artilleryman

RANK First sergeant

POST Don Stough Post 33, Lander, Wyo.

YEARS IN THE LEGION 5

VETERANS ACTIVITIES

- Post adjutant (2012-present)
- National American Legion College graduate (2012)
- District adjutant (2013-2015)
- District commander (2015-2016)

U.S. MILITARY BOMBER JACKET

PLUS A FREE SERVICE EMBLEM PATCH AND OPTIONAL "CONCEALED CARRY" FEATURE

OPTIONAL "CONCEAL CARRY" FEATURE

We are extremely pleased to honor Military Veterans with a new and exclusive U.S. Military Bomber Jacket inspired by the historic A-1 Bomber.

- **FREE BONUS:** We will affix a colorful woven Service Branch Patch of your choice to the chest of your jacket (see choices below).
- Features include your choice of black or brown fine leather, tailored with outside storm flap, pleated bi-swing back, knit cuffs and waistband, two side-entry double welt pockets, two large front-flapped cargo pockets, nylon inner lining with fiberfill and heavy-duty jacket zipper.
- A further option is two inner pockets to secure valuables, which are fitted with "Concealed Carry" pocket holster straps for those licensed to carry a firearm.
- Bomber Jacket comes in sizes ranging from small to 3XL (sizes 2XL-3XL are \$25 extra.)
- Created in partnership with Burks Bay of Minnesota and backed by our Veterans Commemoratives warranty - You may return your jacket within 30 days of purchase for replacement or refund - no questions asked!
- Thank you priced starting at just \$199, with an interest-free payment plan available. (See order form for details).



FREE PROUD TO BE A VETERAN ZIPPER PULL WITH EACH ORDER!

SERVICE BRANCH PATCH CHOICES:



*United States Marine Corps patch, provided by Sgt Grit Marine Specialties.

YOU HAVE EARNED THE RIGHT TO WEAR THIS SPECIAL JACKET!

SIZING IF YOU WEAR THIS SIZE: 34-36 38-40 42-44 46-48 50-52 54-56
ORDER THIS SIZE: S M L XL 2XL[†] 3XL[†]

CALL TOLL FREE TO ORDER: 1-800-255-3048
 Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm EST. Have Credit card ready.

OR, MAIL TO: Veterans Commemoratives™ Two Radnor Corporate Center, Suite 120, Radnor, PA 19087-4599

☐ **YES.** I wish to order my Military Service Bomber Jacket customized as follows:

COLOR: ☐ Black Leather ☐ Brown Leather

SIZE: (See chart above) ☐ S ☐ M ☐ LG ☐ XL ☐ 2XL[†] ☐ 3XL[†]

MILITARY PATCH: ☐ Army ☐ Navy ☐ Air Force ☐ Marine Corps ☐ Coast Guard

MILITARY SERVICE BOMBER JACKET: \$ 199.00

☐ Conceal Carry Feature (add \$30)..... \$

☐ *Sizes 2XL to 3XL (add \$25) \$

Plus Shipping & Handling \$ 19.95

TOTAL DUE: \$

I PREFER TO PAY AS FOLLOWS:

☐ Enclosed is my check for the Total Due payable to "Veterans Commemoratives"

☐ Charge my credit card, as indicated at right, for the Total Due

☐ Charge my credit card in two equal interest-free monthly payments

CREDIT CARD: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

CC#: _____ Exp. Date: ____ / ____

Card Security Code (CSC) _____ Signature: _____

SHIPPING ADDRESS: (We CANNOT ship to P.O. Boxes) Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # (____) _____

Email _____

New overtime pay rule



SUPPORT

Rep. Marcy Kaptur, D-Ohio

■ Kaptur is a member of the House Appropriations Committee.

Accounting for inflation, most U.S. workers haven't had a meaningful pay raise in decades. Millions lost jobs during the most recent recession, and many who were lucky enough to find replacement jobs are being paid much less than before. U.S. overtime rules have not kept pace, forcing more Americans to work longer hours for the same pay.

Today, if you make more than \$23,660 per year, you are not guaranteed overtime for any extra hours you work.

Just 8 percent of full-time salaried workers currently receive overtime pay. For many salaried workers expected to work 50 or more hours a week, not receiving overtime pay means they are paid less than minimum wage.

The arguments against fair pay are well-worn. On the eve of the passing of the historic Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, President Franklin D. Roosevelt cautioned the American people, "Do not let any calamity-howling executive with an income of \$1,000 a day (tell you) that a wage of \$11 a week is going to have a disastrous effect on all American industry." Today, that calamity howling is coming from representatives who are politically bought and paid for. And the pay disparity between the rich and poor is even wider.

Unpaid overtime costs the government millions in additional assistance every year, effectively giving the largest corporations a federal bailout for underpaying their workers. President Obama's proposal would raise the salary for guaranteed overtime to \$50,440 a year, extending overtime pay guarantees to nearly 5 million more workers. This puts money in the hands of people who will spend it to feed their families, pay for goods and services, send kids to college and generate the activity that drives a healthy U.S. economy.



OPPOSE

Sen. Dan Coats, R-Ind.

■ Coats is chairman of the Joint Economic Committee.

In July, the Department of Labor published a proposed rule that would raise the threshold for overtime pay from \$455 to \$970 per week. This sounds like a good deal for workers, but it is based on the false assumption that employee pay will remain the same and work hours will remain steady.

As with the Obama administration's minimum-wage proposals, the overtime rule is unlikely to result in larger paychecks for workers. Instead, it would

limit employment opportunities for workers in a number of ways as businesses face new regulatory cost pressures. The change would also limit the number of salaried employees some businesses can afford, force adjustments in base pay or benefits, decrease opportunities for workplace training, reduce work schedule flexibility and result in the substitution of more part-time staff. Many workers have already been forced from full-time to part-time employment because of the Affordable Care Act. An overtime rule change would further stagnate a sluggish economic recovery and hurt the very people the administration seeks to help.

Once again, the department is overreaching and imposing broad new regulations. Employers face increasing pressure under this administration to comply with an ever larger regulatory burden, which in the long run actually imposes higher costs on average Americans.

The proposed overtime pay rule change will hurt workers, not help them. A better way to raise the standard of living and boost U.S. economic mobility is to enact pro-growth policies that will improve the earning potential and economic opportunity for all Americans.

THE HEART OF THE ISSUE

President Obama ordered the Department of Labor to expand the class of employees entitled to overtime pay. Supporters say a hard day's work deserves a fair day's pay. Critics call it a wage hike that will hurt businesses and employees.

CONTACT YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

The Honorable (name), U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510 • Phone: (202) 224-3121

The Honorable (name), U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515 • Phone: (202) 225-3121

Wherever life takes you, you're...

Always My Daughter

DIAMOND JOURNEY PENDANT

A beautifully crafted 14kt gold-plated heart pendant elegantly accented with dazzling diamonds.

Your daughter holds a very special place in your heart and as the years pass, your relationship continues to grow. Now, you can show your daughter just how dear she is to you with this breathtaking pendant, engraved on the back with: "Wherever life takes you, you will always be my daughter."

Exquisitely crafted.

This pendant, plated in 14kt gold and sterling silver, features a fashionable heart design and four dazzling diamonds to symbolize your never-ending love for her. Hanging gently from an 18-inch chain, the pendant beautifully puts into words all that she means to you.

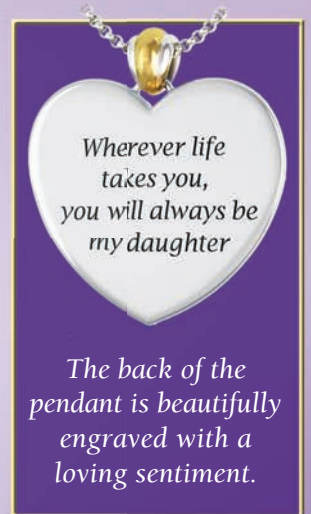
Satisfaction guaranteed; order today!

The pendant can be yours for \$99 plus \$7⁵⁰ shipping and service, payable in three monthly installments of \$35⁵⁰. Your satisfaction is guaranteed. If you are not delighted, return the pendant within 90 days for replacement or refund. Don't delay; order this wonderful gift for your daughter today!

Beautifully Presented

Your pendant arrives in a satin-lined presentation box – perfect for gift-giving, it's yours at no extra charge.

Pendant shown approximately actual size.



The back of the pendant is beautifully engraved with a loving sentiment.

the Danbury Mint

The Danbury Mint
47 Richards Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06857

RESERVATION APPLICATION

Send
no money
now.

YES! Reserve the *Always My Daughter Diamond Journey Pendant* as described in this announcement.

Signature _____

Orders subject to acceptance.

Name _____ Please print clearly.

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

FOR FASTEST DELIVERY: 1-800-726-1184 • www.danburymint.com

22690010E052

Alzheimer's care requires patience, clarity

BY BETH W. ORENSTEIN



Media Bakery

Every morning, Christina Hickerson shows George Keister two shirts he can wear and asks him to choose one. Keister, 87, has dementia. As his caregiver, Hickerson knows it's best to limit his choices. He would find it too confusing if she simply opened his closet and asked, "What would you like to wear today?"

In Hickerson's years as a caregiver to people with dementia, she has learned many of the tricks that make it easier on everyone. It's important to stick to a routine as much as possible, says Hickerson, whose six-bedroom house is part of VA's Medical Foster Home Program.

Keister, who served in the Marine Corps and who also has diabetes, is one of three residents. "With George, he knows right away in the morning he'll get dressed and we will test his blood sugar and have coffee," she says. "If we do things out of order or that we wouldn't normally do, there's a lot of confusion and frustration." Hickerson says she gives him choices of what to wear because it allows him some dignity. "You're not saying, 'Let's put this shirt on.' But by giving him only two choices, you're not making it confusing."

Tips for caregivers Hickerson and the Alzheimer's Association offer these tips to caregivers for people with mild to moderate dementia:

■ **Keep it simple.** When you ask people with dementia to do things, it's best to take one step at a time, Hickerson says. And your instructions should be as clear as possible. Say, "Your shower is ready. Step in." If you were to just say, "Hop in," your loved

one might not understand or might take it literally. Also, stress the words in instructions that are the most important – "Here is your coffee" rather than "Here you are."

■ **Schedule wisely.** Plan to do more difficult tasks, such as bathing or visiting the doctor, during the time of day when your loved one is often the most calm and agreeable.

■ **Be patient.** Recognize that even simple tasks will take your loved one longer than before dementia.

■ **Reduce distractions.** Your loved one will be better able to focus on the task at hand if the TV isn't on or music isn't playing in the background. Let one person give the instructions. "People with dementia need a lot less voices or it's very confusing for them," Hickerson says.

■ **Be flexible.** As a person's ability to function steadily declines, he or she may insist on wearing the same outfit every day. You could buy a few of the same clothes and switch the worn garments for clean versions when your loved one is bathing. Or if your loved one stops eating what was always his favorite food, change the menu to something else he might like. If your mom doesn't want to bathe every day, it's OK to go on a different schedule, such as three times a week.

■ **Provide answers, not questions.** Rather than asking, "Do you need to use the bathroom?" you want to say, "The bathroom is right here," and point to it.

When you're caring for someone with dementia, you have to take it hour by hour, Hickerson says.

See **ALZHEIMER'S** on page 15

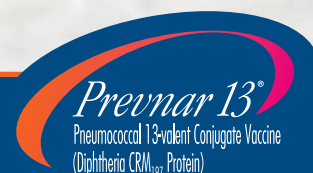
Recommended by
the CDC for adults 65+



WHAT IF ONE PIECE OF KALE COULD HELP PREVENT DIABETES?

Wishful thinking, right?
But there is one step that can help
protect you from another serious
disease, pneumococcal pneumonia.
The PREVNAR 13[®] vaccine.

Over age 50? Your risk of getting pneumococcal pneumonia is higher. It's a serious disease that could put you in the hospital. Symptoms include coughing, fever, chest pain, and difficulty breathing. One dose of the PREVNAR 13[®] vaccine can help protect you. Even if you've already been vaccinated with another pneumonia vaccine, PREVNAR 13[®] may help provide additional protection. Immune response may be lower if given within one year after another pneumonia vaccine. If you are 50 or older, ask your doctor or pharmacist if PREVNAR 13[®] is right for you.



GET THIS ONE DONE.

INDICATION FOR PREVNAR 13[®]

- Prevnar 13[®] is a vaccine approved for adults 50 years of age and older for the prevention of pneumococcal pneumonia and invasive disease caused by 13 *Streptococcus pneumoniae* strains (1, 3, 4, 5, 6A, 6B, 7F, 9V, 14, 18C, 19A, 19F, and 23F)
- Prevnar 13[®] is not 100% effective and will only help protect against the 13 strains included in the vaccine

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

- Prevnar 13[®] should not be given to anyone with a history of severe allergic reaction to any component of Prevnar 13[®] or any diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine
- Adults with weakened immune systems (eg, HIV infection, leukemia) may have a reduced immune response

- In adults, immune responses to Prevnar 13[®] were reduced when given with injected seasonal flu vaccine
- In adults, the common side effects were pain, redness, or swelling at the injection site, limitation of arm movement, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, joint pain, decreased appetite, chills, or rash
- Ask your health care provider about the risks and benefits of Prevnar 13[®]. Only a health care provider can decide if Prevnar 13[®] is right for you

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of vaccines to the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Visit www.vaers.hhs.gov or call 1-800-822-7967.

Please see Important Facts for Prevnar 13[®] on the adjacent page.

PREVNAR 13 is a registered trademark of Wyeth LLC. Manufactured by Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc. Marketed by Pfizer Inc. PSA741806-01 © 2015 Pfizer Inc. All rights reserved. June 2015



IMPORTANT FACTS



Pprevnar 13® (pronounced “Prev • nar 13”)

Generic Name: Pneumococcal 13-valent Conjugate Vaccine (Diphtheria CRM₁₉₇ Protein)

WHO SHOULD RECEIVE PREVNAR 13® (Pneumococcal 13-valent Conjugate Vaccine [Diphtheria CRM₁₉₇ Protein])?

- Pprevnar 13® is approved for adults 50 years and older for the prevention of pneumococcal pneumonia and invasive disease caused by the 13 vaccine strains
- Pprevnar 13® is a vaccine also approved for children 6 weeks through 17 years of age for the prevention of invasive disease caused by the 13 strains of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* included in the vaccine, and for children 6 weeks through 5 years for the prevention of ear infections caused by 7 of the 13 strains
- Pprevnar 13® is not 100% effective and will only help protect against the 13 strains included in the vaccine

Adults 50 years and older:

- A single dose of Pprevnar 13® is recommended for adults aged 50 years of age and older

Children 6 weeks through 5 years of age:

- Pprevnar 13® is recommended for children 6 weeks through 5 years of age
- Pprevnar 13® is given as a 4-dose series at 2, 4, 6, and 12 to 15 months of age
- **Transition schedule:** Children who have received 1 or more doses of Pprevnar® (Pneumococcal 7-valent Conjugate Vaccine [Diphtheria CRM₁₉₇ Protein]) may complete the 4-dose immunization series with Pprevnar 13®
- **Catch-up schedule:** Children 15 months through 5 years of age who are considered fully immunized with Pprevnar® may receive 1 dose of Pprevnar 13® to elicit immune responses to the 6 additional strains
- The immune responses from the transition or catch-up schedules might be lower for the 6 additional strains (types 1, 3, 5, 6A, 7F, and 19A) than if your child had received the full 4 doses of Pprevnar 13®

Children 6 years through 17 years of age:

- In children 6 years through 17 years of age, Pprevnar 13® is given as a single dose

WHO SHOULD NOT RECEIVE PREVNAR 13®?

Children or adults who have had a severe allergic reaction to any component of Pprevnar 13® or any diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine should not receive Pprevnar 13®

BEFORE STARTING PREVNAR 13®

Tell your health care provider or your child's health care provider about all medical conditions, including:

- Previous allergic reactions to other vaccines
- Especially tell the health care provider if your child or you are taking medicines that can weaken the immune system, such as steroids (eg, prednisone) and cancer medicines, or are undergoing radiation therapy
- If you are pregnant or nursing, or if you plan to become pregnant

WARNING

- A temporary pause of breathing following vaccination has been observed in some infants born prematurely. Decisions about when to give Pprevnar 13® to infants born prematurely should be based on consideration of the individual infant's medical status, and the potential benefits and possible risks of vaccination
- The safety and efficacy of Pprevnar 13® when given to persons with a weakened immune system (such as HIV infection, damaged spleen, cancer, or kidney problems) is not known. Children or adults with a weakened immune system may have a reduced response to Pprevnar 13®

WHAT ARE THE POTENTIAL SIDE EFFECTS?

- In adults, the common side effects were pain, redness, or swelling at the injection site, limitation of arm movement, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, joint pain, decreased appetite, chills, or rash
- The most commonly reported serious adverse events in children were bronchiolitis (an infection of the lungs) (0.9%), gastroenteritis (inflammation of the stomach and small intestine) (0.9%), and pneumonia (0.9%)
- In children 6 weeks through 17 years, the most common side effects were tenderness, redness, or swelling at the injection site, irritability, decreased appetite, decreased or increased sleep, and fever. Most commonly reported side effects in children 5 years through 17 years also included hives

WHAT SHOULD I KNOW ABOUT RECEIVING PREVNAR 13® WITH OTHER VACCINES?

- In adults, immune responses to Pprevnar 13® were reduced when given with injected seasonal flu vaccine
- When given within 1 year following pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine, immune response to Pprevnar 13® may be lower

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- The safety and effectiveness of Pprevnar 13® when used in children less than 6 weeks of age is not known
- In a study in which children received acetaminophen prior to Pprevnar 13®, immune responses to some strains in the vaccine were lower compared with responses among children who received acetaminophen after vaccination only as needed
- Ask your health care provider about the risks and benefits of Pprevnar 13®. Only a health care provider can decide if Pprevnar 13® is right for you or your child

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

- This is only a summary of important information. Ask your health care provider or your child's health care provider for complete product information
- Go to www.Pprevnar13.com or call 1-800-666-7248

PREVNAR and PREVNAR 13 are registered trademarks of Wyeth LLC.

Manufactured by Wyeth Pharmaceuticals Inc. © 2015 Pfizer Inc. All rights reserved. June 2015. Marketed by Pfizer Inc.

Based on LAB-0469-12.0 (May 2015)

Rx only

ALZHEIMER'S *continued from page 12*

"If someone doesn't want to do something, let them be for a little while and then come back to it." People with dementia live in the moment, and it helps avoid frustration when you do too.

Finally, show the person lots of love. "They will feel well taken care of," Hickerson says.

Beth W. Orenstein of Northampton, Pa., is a freelance medical writer and a regular contributor to Living Well.



Media Bakery

Alzheimer's by the numbers

5.3 million Americans with Alzheimer's

5.1 million older than 65 (one in nine has Alzheimer's)

2/3 Female vs. male

7.1 million Number of Americans 65 and older with Alzheimer's by 2025, a 40 percent increase

Source: Alzheimer's Association



Media Bakery

New app helps veterans go mobile to achieve weight goals

Veterans looking for a portable way to achieve their weight goals have a new option: VA's MOVE! Coach app. Launched in February, the app helps veterans use their personal electronic devices to monitor their health and well-being, when and where they want.

"MOVE! Coach guides users through a 19-week program, providing the tools and information they need to succeed," explains Lynn Novorska, the app's project leader at Veterans Health Administration's National Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

Designed specifically for veterans, MOVE! Coach offers interactive features to set, track and reach individual exercise, nutrition, and weight-management goals. In recent field tests, participants at 11 VA facilities achieved a mean weight loss of 8.1 pounds using the app.

MOVE! Coach is available for download from the Apple App Store for iPhones or iPads with iOS version 6.0 or higher.

Learn more about the app:

 www.move.va.gov/movecoach.asp

Living Well is designed to provide general information. It is not intended to be, nor is it, medical advice. Readers should consult their physicians when they have health problems.

States of (in)activity

According to the United Health Foundation, the following states had the highest and lowest percentages of residents participating in physical activities during any given month in 2013:

Go online to see where your state ranked:

 www.americahealthrankings.org/reports/annual

Most active

Rank	Value	State
1	82.1	Colorado
2	81.5	Oregon
3	80	Washington
4	79.5	Vermont
5	79.4	Utah

Least active

Rank	Value	State
46	67.8	Louisiana
47	67	Oklahoma
48	65.6	Arkansas
49	62.8	Tennessee
50	61.9	Mississippi

VA dodged compound drug scams

BY TOM PHILPOTT

Renee Turley of Panama City, Fla., a TRICARE beneficiary, was asked by her civilian gynecologist's office last fall if she wanted a prescription for scar cream following the birth of her child by cesarean section. "Sure," she said.

Over the next three months a company called Florida Pharmacy Solutions sent Turley three different kinds of creams with no instructions. So she called the company for guidance.

"They sent a pathetic piece of something not even worth the stamp they used to send it," Turley said. "It looked like they copied something out of a magazine." Then she got her TRICARE statement of benefits. Her co-pay was \$60, but the company had charged TRICARE \$93,877.92. Alarmed, she called TRICARE to ask if there had been an error.

"Compounds are expensive," she was told.

Unlike commercial drug manufacturers, compound pharmacies tout individualized medicines by combining more than one ingredient to produce drugs otherwise unavailable. Doctors usually prescribe them if they believe patients might benefit from a different strength or type of medicine than those offered by larger companies.

Compound drug operations exploded in the past decade following a Supreme Court decision that lifted FDA controls. Unscrupulous companies began aggressively marketing individualized therapies. Most of the resulting abuse involved creams and ointments for pain relief, burns or scarring, with insurers having to pay whatever exorbitant price companies set.

As civilian health-insurance plans caught on and tightened compound coverage, the companies turned their sights on TRICARE providers and beneficiaries. They marketed through physician offices and directly to beneficiaries via phone, the Internet and face-to-face solicitations at military hospitals, and even lobbies of on-base stores.

TRICARE's compound drug costs ballooned, from \$23 million in 2010 to \$515 million by 2014. In the previous two years, TRICARE's average cost for a compound drug jumped from \$192 to \$2,595.

In April, TRICARE paid more than \$500 million to

compound druggists. Finally, in May, it imposed stricter controls. By then, drug costs had blown a hole in the TRICARE budget. Defense officials told Congress it had to reprogram \$1.4 billion from other accounts or risk exhausting funds to provide private-sector care for at least a few months.



So how has this affected VA care, a health system rattled by scandals and challenges? As it turns out, the VA pharmacy benefit has been well-armed against the cost explosion.

That's because VA – including its pharmacy program – remains largely a supplier, not a buyer, of medical care, said Michael Valentino, VHA chief consultant for pharmacy benefit management services. "While we are shifting more health care to non-VA providers to meet the needs of various

veterans, we are still primarily a direct provider of medical care ... Specifically with regard to our prescription benefit, it's a carved-in, VA-managed function," he explained.

VA fills the drug needs of enrolled veterans, except for emergency medicines occasionally prescribed through purchased care programs.

"Everything else we fill internally," Valentino said, "regardless of whether they're written by our VA docs or non-VA docs. As a result we're able to proactively intervene and control any aberrant, non-evidence-based or fraudulent prescribing practices. So we catch that stuff up front."

Compound pharmacies haven't had the same access to enrollees in VA health care as they have had to TRICARE beneficiaries, perhaps because VA hasn't had to share databases with outside care providers to the extent TRICARE has.

However, knowing that TRICARE was about to ratchet down on compound drug operations and that marketers might look for other "fertile ground" to till, VA last spring instituted "a moratorium on the dispensing of any compounded topical products for pain, scars or burns if not listed on the VA national formulary," Valentino said.

Tom Philpott has been covering military personnel and veterans issues for more than 30 years.

SPECIAL OFFER FOR VETERANS!



Arthritis Foundation

**Ease of
UseSM**

LIFETIME
LIMITED WARRANTY



Financing available
with approved credit

A Safe Step Walk-In Tub will offer independence to those seeking a safe and easy way to bathe right in the convenience and comfort of their own home. Constructed and built right here in America for safety and durability from the ground up, and with more standard features than any other tub.

- ✓ **Carefully engineered hydro-massage jets strategically placed to target sore muscles and joints**
- ✓ **New! MicroSoothe Air Therapy System** – which oxygenates, softens and exfoliates skin while offering life-changing therapeutic benefits
- ✓ **A NEW heated seat providing warmth from beginning to end**
- ✓ **The highest quality tub complete with the most comprehensive lifetime warranty on the entire tub**
- ✓ **Top-of-the-line installation and service, all included at one low, affordable price**

SAFE STEP
WALK-IN TUB CO.
www.BuySafeStep.com

You'll agree – there just isn't a better walk-in tub on the market. So take your first step towards feeling great and stay in the home you love. **Give us a call today!**

For your **FREE** information kit and DVD,
and our Senior Discounts, Call Today Toll-Free

1-800-461-4037

www.BuySafeStep.com

Call today and receive
exclusive savings of up to

\$1500 OFF

for a limited time only

Call Toll-Free 1-800-461-4037



Photo by Lucas Carter

Relentless Forward Progress

Noah Galloway overcame severe war injuries and depression to re-embrace fitness, dance with the stars and inspire America.

BY HENRY HOWARD

Long before “Dancing With the Stars” shined a bright light on Noah Galloway, the wounded Iraq war veteran was alone in a dark place.

Galloway doesn't blame anyone for the IED explosion that took his left arm and leg and landed him in a depressive state. He voluntarily joined the Army. He re-enlisted. He signed up for a second deployment. He told his commanding officer he would drive the lead truck in the Triangle of Death the night of Dec. 19, 2005.

Wearing his night-vision goggles, Galloway did not see the tripwire strewn across the road as the three-truck convoy headed out to pick up other platoon members. The blast flipped his armored Humvee into a ditch and turned Galloway's life upside down.

“I never saw it,” recalls Galloway, who served in the 101st Airborne Division. “Lt. (Jerry) Eidson said that right before it went off he saw a bush that was out of place for a split second, then boom. It went off. It hit my door, threw this 9,000-pound Humvee flying through the air and landing in a canal adjacent to the road. The water was up to my chest. I had a huge hole in my jaw. They thought I was already dead.”

Galloway shielded Eidson and gunner Ryan Davis, who each suffered minor injuries. Eidson surveyed the scene, saw that Galloway was still breathing and scrambled back up the 15-foot slippery slope to the road for help. The accompanying Humvees had sped past the kill zone, following protocol to leave the scene after an IED explosion.

“They blew through the smoke and didn't see our truck and assumed that we did the same and hauled butt,” Eidson remembers. “They didn't know that we were stuck down in the canal, so I got out and didn't see anybody.”

After checking on Galloway again and getting Davis out, Eidson returned to the lonely road. His commander denied a request to send out a rescue

convoy. Their only hope was for the other two Humvees to return.

“Essentially we were just kind of just waiting for the moment for somebody to open fire since an ambush is usually associated with those types of explosions, but it didn't happen,” Eidson says. “Honestly, I prayed. I prayed that God would send somebody to come and help us. I don't believe it was a coincidence, but after I said that prayer those guys came back in the trucks and were able to get us out.”

Once they returned to safety, Eidson asked a doctor about Galloway's prognosis. “He just didn't have any hope at all. The look on his face told me that Noah was probably not going to make it.”

Galloway does not remember the blast nor the scramble to rescue him. The last thing he recalls is listening to the “Dukes of Hazzard” theme song on his iPod (“Just the good ol' boys / Never meanin' no harm ...”) as he scanned the seemingly empty nighttime desert.

He awoke on Christmas, six days after the blast. Two limbs were gone, his jaw was wired shut and bruises pocked his body. “When I first woke up in the hospital and learned that I was missing two limbs, my first thought was that I would never be physical again.”

But Galloway's attention quickly turned elsewhere. He wanted to know what happened to Eidson, Davis and other soldiers in the convoy. “The second deployment I was on was horrible,” he recalls. “We lost a lot of guys. I didn't know

EDITOR'S NOTE

This is the second installment in a multi-part series – **Our War: The Post-9/11 Veteran** – examining the place in history occupied by today's newest veterans, from battles fought in the combat theater to public perceptions at home and in the nation's media.

what was going on. I didn't know who was in the vehicle. So I kept asking, 'Who died?' Nobody could give me the answers."

Later, Galloway would learn that nobody died and that he had taken 95 percent of the blast. It was as if he had fulfilled his oft-stated promise to Eidson: "I would take a bullet for you."

A MENTOR Putting the needs of others first is common for Galloway, who is a member of American Legion Post 911 in Alabama.

Eric Eisenberg recalls how Galloway helped "Q," a 13-year-old cancer patient undergoing treatment in Birmingham, Ala., a short drive from Galloway's home in Alabaster.

Cancer was ravaging Q's body, and he was facing the prospect of having a leg amputated. He was angry at the world. "He didn't want to participate in physical therapy," recalls Eisenberg, who has worked with both Galloway and Q as the owner/founder of BioTech Limb and Brace. "He didn't want to deal with chemotherapy. He didn't want to face the reality of having an amputation."

After Eisenberg's initial consultation with Q, he called Noah and asked him for a favor: visit the youth in the hospital. "And the next day Noah was there," Eisenberg says. "One of the things Q asked Noah was to take his leg off and stand on one leg. So Noah did it. He took his leg off. That right there changed that boy's complete outlook. Noah inspired him so much."

Galloway approached his friendship with Q the same way he does everything: relentless dedica-

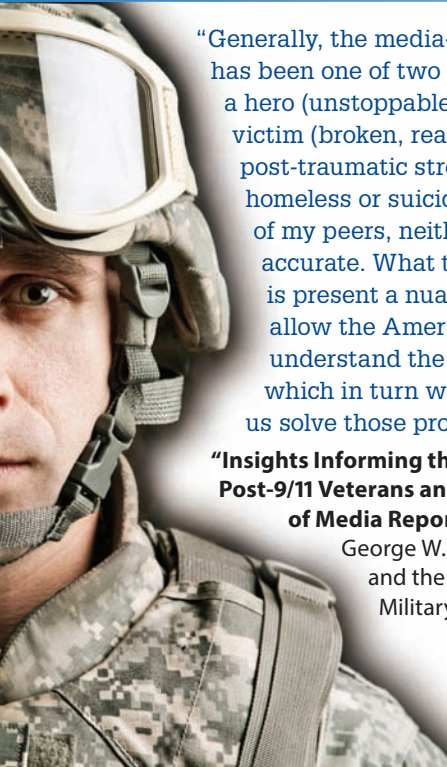
tion. Galloway kept in touch with Q, and visited and played video games with him when he returned to Birmingham every couple of weeks for chemo.

"That kid is doing great now," says Eisenberg, who notes that Q is playing baseball. "In fact, we're making him a running leg now. That's a testimony to who Noah is and how he has a big heart and how he helps people. I think he figures there's a reason he lost his arm and leg in combat, and that's to help other people. That's what he's here to do."

Simply put, Q lost his leg to cancer but gained a mentor for life. "Q aspires to be like Noah," Eisenberg says.

THE MAN IN THE MIRROR But before he could inspire children, other veterans and "Dancing with the Stars" fans, Galloway had to look in the mirror and at his kids' faces for his own motivation. After returning home from Walter Reed, Galloway battled depression, hitting the booze daily, smoking cigarettes and eating junk food. "I ate salt and vinegar chips until my mouth was numb."

Galloway hid his depression from friends and family. He would go drinking with a group of friends one night, then another group the next night, and so on. When he got depressed, he would drink alone at home. "I was miserable and unhappy, and I wasn't Noah Galloway," he recalls. "My friends saw me as the Noah they used to know. But man, I got good at faking it (happiness). Really good at faking it."



"Generally, the media-driven narrative has been one of two extremes. I am either a hero (unstoppable and iconic) or a victim (broken, ready to crack under post-traumatic stress, unemployed, homeless or suicidal). For the vast majority of my peers, neither characterization is accurate. What the media often fail to do is present a nuanced picture that would allow the American people to understand the challenges we face, which in turn would enable them to help us solve those problems together."

"Insights Informing the Concerns of Post-9/11 Veterans and Families: A Review of Media Reporting and Focus,"

George W. Bush Presidential Center and the Institute for Veterans and Military Families, Syracuse, N.Y.

The Department of Defense and the Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center estimate that **22 percent of all OEF/OIF combat wounds** are brain injuries, compared to 12 percent during the Vietnam War.



Approximately **28 percent** of the 2.3 million who deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan between 2001 and 2011 were members of the National Guard or reserve components.

15 percent, or 46,050 reservists, deployed more than three times between 2001 and 2011. **37 percent** of National Guard troops deployed more than once between 2001 and 2011.

Medill National Security Journalism Initiative, quoting data from the National Guard Bureau and the Defense Manpower Data Center

To some, sunglasses are a fashion accessory...

But When Driving, These Sunglasses May Save Your Life!

Drivers' Alert: Driving can expose you to more dangerous glare than any sunny day at the beach can... do you know how to protect yourself?

The sun rises and sets at peak travel periods, during the early morning and afternoon rush hours and many drivers find themselves temporarily blinded while driving directly into the glare of the sun. Deadly accidents are regularly caused by such blinding glare with danger arising from reflected light off another vehicle, the pavement, or even from waxed and oily windshields that can make matters worse. Early morning dew can exacerbate this situation. Yet, motorists struggle on despite being blinded by the sun's glare that can cause countless accidents every year.

Not all sunglasses are created equal. Protecting your eyes is serious business. With all the fancy fashion frames out there it can be easy to overlook what really matters—the lenses. So we did our research and looked to the very best in optic innovation and technology.

Sometimes it does take a rocket scientist. A NASA rocket scientist.

Some ordinary sunglasses can obscure your vision by exposing your eyes to harmful UV rays, blue light, and reflective glare. They can also darken useful vision-enhancing light. But now, independent research conducted by scientists from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory has brought forth ground-breaking technology to help protect human eyesight from the harmful effects of



Slip on a pair of Eagle Eyes® and everything instantly appears more vivid and sharp. You'll immediately notice that your eyes are more comfortable and relaxed and you'll feel no need to squint. The scientifically designed sunglasses are not just fashion accessories—they are necessary to protect your eyes from those harmful rays produced by the sun during peak driving times.

solar radiation light. This superior lens technology was first discovered when NASA scientists looked to nature for a means to superior eye protection—specifically, by studying the eyes of eagles, known for their extreme visual acuity. This discovery resulted in what is now known as Eagle Eyes®.

The Only Sunglass Technology Certified by the Space Foundation for UV and Blue-Light Eye Protection.

Eagle Eyes® features the most advanced eye protection technology ever created. The TriLenium® Lens Technology offers triple-filter polarization to block 99.9% UVA and UVB—plus the added benefit of blue-light eye protection. Eagle Eyes® is the only optic technology that has earned official recognition from the Space Certification Program for this remarkable technology. Now, that's proven science-based protection.

The finest optics:

And buy one, get one FREE!

Eagle Eyes® has the highest customer satisfaction of any item in our 20 year history. We are so excited for you to try the Eagle Eyes® breakthrough technology that we will give you a **second pair of Eagle Eyes® Navigator™ Sunglasses FREE—a \$99 value!**

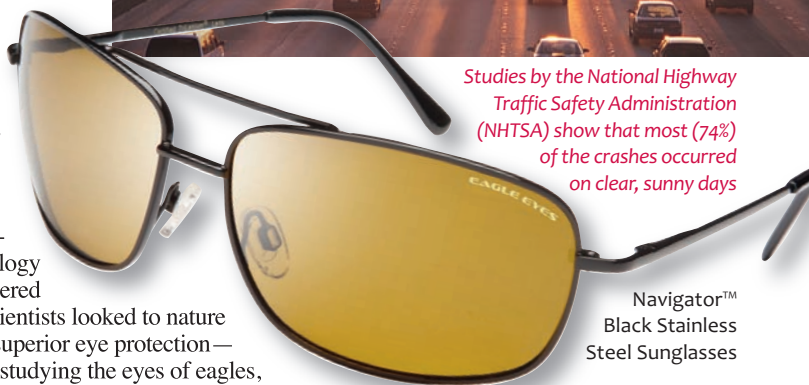
That's two pairs to protect your eyes with the best technology available for less than the price of one pair of traditional sunglasses. You get a pair of Navigators with stainless steel black frames and the other with stainless steel gold, plus two micro-fiber drawstring cleaning pouches are included. Keep one pair in your pocket and one in your car at all times.

Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed.

If you are not astounded with the Eagle Eyes® technology, enjoying clearer, sharper and more glare-free vision, simply return one pair within 60 days for a full refund of the purchase price. The other pair is yours to keep. No one else has such confidence in their optic technology.



Studies by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) show that most (74%) of the crashes occurred on clear, sunny days



Navigator™
Black Stainless
Steel Sunglasses

Receive the Navigator™ Gold Sunglasses (a \$99 value) **FREE!** just for trying the Navigator™ Black



Navigator™ Gold Stainless Steel Sunglasses



Certified EAGLE EYES® was developed from original NASA Optic technology and was recently inducted into the Space Foundation Technology Hall of Fame.

Don't leave your eyes in the hands of fashion designers, entrust them to the best scientific minds on earth. Wear your Eagle Eyes® Navigators with absolute confidence, knowing your eyes are protected with technology that was born in space for the human race.

Eagle Eyes® Navigator™ Sunglasses ~~\$99~~

Offer Code Price **\$49** + S&P Save **\$50**
PLUS receive the Navigator™ Gold absolutely FREE!—2 pairs for the price of one!

1-800-333-2045

Your Insider Offer Code: EEN235-01

You must use this insider offer code to get our special price.

Stauer®

14101 Southcross Drive W.,
Dept. EEN235-01
Burnsville, Minnesota 55337
www.stauer.com



Rating of A+

† Special price only for customers using the offer code versus the price on Stauer.com without your offer code.

Smart Luxuries—Surprising Prices™

The love of his three children helped persuade Galloway to trade late nights at bars for early mornings in the gym.

“I am the first thing my two boys see as a man and that’s who they are going to become when they grow up, whether they like it or not. I have to remind myself of that, and if I am not being a good person they won’t grow up to be good men. And my little girl: I am what she sees in what a man should be. If I am not being a good man, that’s who she is going to find one day, so I have to be constantly showing her what a good man does so she can find that one day, herself.”

As he wrestled with his demons and strived to be a better father, he took a long look at himself in a full-length mirror. “Every time I looked in the mirror, all I would see was my injuries. And it bothered me. One day I looked at the rest of my body and I thought, ‘Oh crap. What have I done?’ I decided to quit focusing on what I had lost, and started focusing on what I had left.”

Once Galloway found his motivation, he instituted changes. He improved his diet, quit the frequent drinking and embraced fitness once again. “It was a progression. It was like I was telling myself, ‘I have to do more. I need to do more with my kids.’ The first step I made was changing my diet. Then I eased into the gym. Small, attainable goals.”

Before his injuries, Galloway prided himself on being in top physical condition. His renewed interest and commitment to fitness would be his salvation. The depression, however, was hard to shake.

Galloway went to the gym at 2 or 3 in the morning, trying to figure out how a one-armed, one-legged man could regain the fitness he had enjoyed since he was a teenager. “I would get so upset and bothered. Some days, I would be so excited and figure things out. Other days, I would think, ‘What am I doing? This isn’t going to work. I am so out of shape.’ And just get mad.”

But it did work. Galloway taught himself exercises he could do. He gained confidence and fitness, which propelled him to go to the gym midday when others were around. And his depression melted away. “Physical fitness is better than any drug on the market,” he says. “You get in there and you start seeing those improvements and you feel better. Anything is possible from there.”

His commitment to fitness was featured in *Men’s Health* when the magazine selected Galloway as its Ultimate Health Guy last year. Galloway recognizes the importance of his message and how it can relate to other injured veterans. That was a watershed moment. He says that that was when veterans started reaching out to him and he began spreading his message.

“If there is a veteran out there who is struggling, and all he hears on the news is about veterans going off the deep end, then he’s going to figure that’s just what we do,” Galloway says. “There’s no hope. We’ve gone to hell and back. But these stories about guys, even with physical injuries or with PTSD, who are out there (succeeding), that should be enough to motivate these guys to do something else.”



Dec. 30, 2006

The hanging of Saddam Hussein

Found guilty and convicted of crimes against humanity by an Iraqi special tribunal, Saddam Hussein is hanged.

Jan. 10, 2007

The surge

President Bush addresses the nation, stating his intention to change U.S. strategy to bring security to the people of Baghdad by increasing force levels by more than 20,000. The new counterinsurgency strategy aims to win the hearts and minds of Iraqi citizens through relationship-building, prevention of civilian casualties and engagement with former enemy personnel.



58 percent of post-9/11 generation veterans, who are granted five years of automatic VA health-care eligibility, have used VA care services since Sept. 11, 2001.

SHOW YOUR REMEMBRANCE FOR THOSE WE WILL NEVER FORGET

A portion of the proceeds from each sale will be donated to help the families of POWs and those missing in action



"NEVER FORGOTTEN" MEN'S HOODIE



Versatile hoodie style crafted in easy-care, comfortable fleece-lined cotton/poly knit



Custom art patch on the back with the embroidered sentiment "POW★MIA YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN"

Available in four men's sizes from Medium-XXL

AN EXCLUSIVE APPAREL DESIGN FROM THE BRADFORD EXCHANGE

PAY TRIBUTE TO THE ULTIMATE FREEDOM FIGHTERS

Honor with pride the incomparable courage of U.S. Military personnel who were taken as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action with the "Never Forgotten" Men's Hoodie. It is an exclusively symbolic design available only from The Bradford Exchange, honoring those who served and fought for our nation's freedom at the ultimate expense.

MEANINGFUL CUSTOM ART... CLASSIC HOODIE APPEAL

Crafted of a comfortable knit blend lined with fleece, this black hoodie showcases a custom POW MIA image with an eagle and American flag design on an appliqué patch on the back, with the embroidered heartfelt sentiment "POW MIA YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN." To show your patriotism, the front of the hoodie features an embroidered American flag patch.

Design details include a contrast gray lined hood, kangaroo pockets in the front, knit cuffs and hem, a full front zipper, and silver-toned

metal tippets on the hood's drawstrings. Plus, *The Bradford Exchange is proud to announce that a portion of the proceeds from the sale of each hoodie will be donated to help the families of POWs and those missing in action.* Imported.

DON'T MISS OUT... ORDER TODAY!

Available in men's sizes Medium to XXL, this stylish hoodie is a great value at just \$89.95*, payable in 4 convenient installments of \$22.49 each, and backed by our 30-day money-back guarantee. To reserve yours, send no money now; just return the Reservation Application. This is a limited-time offer, so order today!



Display your patriotism with an embroidered American flag patch on the front

RESERVATION APPLICATION

SEND NO MONEY NOW

THE
BRADFORD EXCHANGE
- APPAREL & ACCESSORIES -

9345 Milwaukee Avenue · Niles, IL 60714-1393

YES. Please reserve the "Never Forgotten" Men's Hoodie for me in the size indicated below as described in this announcement.

Please Respond Promptly

☐ **Medium** (38-40) 01-19897-011

☐ **XL** (46-48) 01-19897-013

☐ **Large** (42-44) 01-19897-012

☐ **XXL** (50-52) 01-19897-014

Signature _____

Mrs. Mr. Ms. _____

Name (Please Print Clearly)

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Email (optional) _____

E94901

www.bradfordexchange.com/neverforgotten

©2015 BGE 01-19897-001-BI

*Plus \$11.99 shipping and service. Please allow 2-4 weeks after initial payment for shipment. Sales subject to product availability and order acceptance.

EXTREME ATHLETE Even highly motivated people like Galloway need help from others.

Shortly after he came home from Walter Reed in 2006, he met Eisenberg, who soon challenged Galloway to run on a prosthesis for the first time. He remembers being amazed by Galloway's speed, form and mechanics on an indoor track. "He was unbelievable. I remember him running down the track and coming back. 'How did I do? How did I do?' There are people with two arms and two legs who can't do what he did. Right then and there I recognized how special he was and what a gifted athlete he was."

As Galloway's dedication to fitness grew once again, Eisenberg pushed him, sponsoring him in his first local 5k road race. "I didn't know if he was necessarily ready for it, but I knew that through athletics is how we could get him to heal. I don't mean physically – but mentally, emotionally."

Community support lit a fire under Galloway. He loved the public attention and the athletic competition. "He didn't want to compete against other amputees," Eisenberg says. "He wanted to compete with able-bodied people and potentially beat them. And, honestly, he can beat most able-bodied people."

Around the same time, Eidson called up Galloway and invited him to compete in a 5k Warrior Dash obstacle course race in Georgia. "I needed to get back into being competitive again, and I knew Noah was going through a tough time and was struggling with how he was going to try to get back into shape and what he was going to do," Eidson says. "He just said, 'Let's do it. Let's grow our beards out and wear kilts.' So we grew our beards out and wore kilts, and we did the race. It was an awesome, awesome time."

Other contestants noticed the guy who climbed the wall with only two limbs and sought him out afterward to learn his story. That launched a wave of people – civilians testing themselves on obstacle course races, those with disabilities and veterans – reaching out to him. "They feel like if I can do it, why can't they?"

Galloway wasn't satisfied with 5ks. Instead, he sought out the most grueling, challenging events. He has completed marathons, a dozen Tough Mudder contests, Spartan races – including the 58-hour Spartan Death Race in Vermont, where he was among only 20 finishers – and CrossFit competitions. And not just any marathons – he completed the Marine Corps Marathon and twice finished the Bataan Death March Memorial, a 26.2-mile trek

"I saw what was happening after 9/11 in my own family and among friends, and among their friends. The operation tempo was so high. People coming out were not having the right kind of shot at the future, given their service. I made a vow that the first piece of legislation I would drop, if I were elected to the U.S. Senate, would be a bill that gave those who served since 9/11 the same kind of benefits as those who served in World War II.

"Today in the United States, on educational grants based on need, we spend \$19 billion – just for grants based on need. With this program, there is one way to get the benefit, and that's honorable service to the country in a time of war. So, if people think this is too generous, have them put a pack on and go out and earn the benefit."

Former Sen. James Webb, D-Va., a decorated Vietnam War Marine Corps veteran and author of the Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Act, speaking at the 90th American Legion National Convention in Phoenix in 2008



Photo by Noel St. John

June 30, 2008

The Post-9/11 GI Bill

A GI Bill for the 21st-century veteran becomes law and is set to take effect Aug. 1, 2009. Among its features are funding that better reflects the true cost of college education, a monthly housing allowance, a stipend for books and supplies and relocation support, as well as the ability to transfer GI Bill benefits to eligible spouses and dependents.

"To you, it's the perfect lift chair. To me, it's the best sleep chair I've ever had."

— J. Fitzgerald, VA

Easy-to-use remotes for massage/heat and recline/lift



Complete with battery backup in case of power outage

Sit up, lie down — and anywhere in between!

We've all had nights when we just can't lie down in bed and sleep, whether it's from heartburn, cardiac problems, hip or back aches – it could be a variety of reasons. Those are the nights we'd give anything for a comfortable chair to sleep in, one that reclines to exactly the right degree, raises feet and legs to precisely the desired level, supports the head and shoulders properly, operates easily even in the dead of night, and sends a hopeful sleeper right off to dreamland.

Our Perfect Sleep Chair® is just the chair to do it all. It's a chair, true – the finest of lift chairs – but this chair is so much more! It's designed to provide total comfort and relaxation not found in other chairs. It can't be beat for comfortable, long-term sitting, TV viewing,

relaxed reclining and – yes! – peaceful sleep. Our chair's recline technology allows you to pause the chair in an infinite number of positions, including the Trendelenburg position and the zero

gravity position where your body experiences a minimum of internal and external stresses.

You'll love the other benefits, too: It helps with correct spinal alignment, promotes back pressure relief, and encourages better posture to prevent back and muscle pain.



This lift chair puts you safely on your feet!

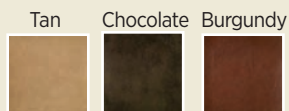
And there's more! The overstuffed, oversized biscuit style back and unique seat design will cradle you in comfort. Generously filled, wide armrests provide enhanced arm support when sitting or reclining. The high and low heat settings along with the dozens of massage settings, can provide a soothing relaxation you might get at a spa – just imagine getting all that in a lift chair! Shipping charge includes white glove delivery. Professionals will deliver the chair to the exact spot in your home where you want it, unpack it, inspect it, test it, position it, and even carry the packaging away! Includes one year service warranty and your choice of fabrics and colors. If you're not 100% satisfied simply return the chair within 30 days for a refund of the product purchase price. – Call now!

The Perfect Sleep Chair® Call now toll free for our lowest price.

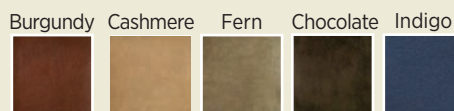
Please mention code 100513 when ordering.

1-888-285-6774

**Long Lasting
DuraLux Leather**



**DuraLux II
Microfiber**



© 2015 firstSTREET for Boomers and Beyond, Inc.

through the high desert terrain of White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico.

At the Marine Corps Marathon, a veteran approached Galloway and thanked him for writing about his depression on his website. “He said, ‘You’re Noah Galloway. I read your blog post. I’m an alcoholic, and your stages of grief were the same stages I went through. It was so powerful to read.’ I realized then that I was connecting with other people, who may not be missing an arm and a leg, but we’re all dealing with our own issues.”

Galloway’s participation in extreme endurance events “doesn’t surprise me at all,” Eisenberg says. “The thing that made him an incredible soldier and the thing that makes him an incredible figure to help people with disabilities is that Noah does not know the words ‘no’ or ‘quit.’ Noah would literally die before he would quit or give up on something.”

In fact, he almost did.

During the Bataan marathon, Galloway used his prosthetic running leg and carried a 35-pound backpack. He also wore a gas mask, which impeded his ability to consume oxygen.

Halfway through the event, he threw up in his gas mask. He swallowed it and continued to push forward. After he finished, he started vomiting again.

“The medical staff figures he’s dehydrated and took him to the emergency room,” Eisenberg says. “The doctor in the emergency room said he pushed

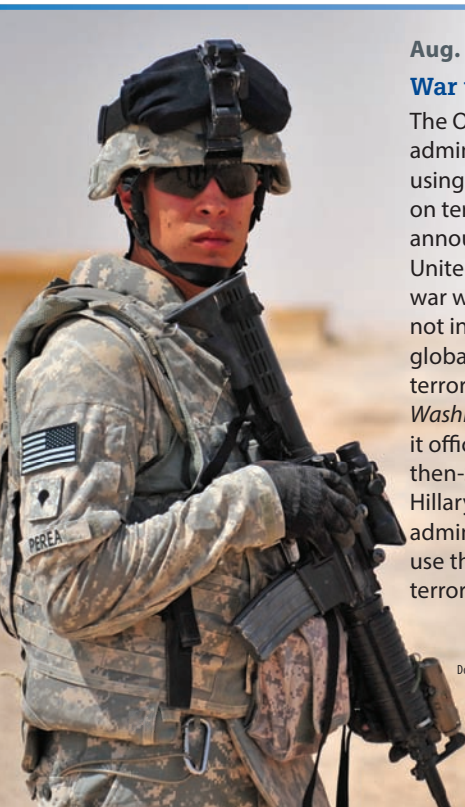
his heart muscle to the point that he actually damaged his heart, similar to someone having a heart attack. That is a testament to Noah. He would sooner die out there in the desert than having not completed the task at hand. That makes him an excellent soldier and amazing human being. It shows the fortitude and that you can persevere through anything. That’s the most amazing thing about him. That and I don’t think he’s afraid of anything.”

DANCE MACHINE Although Galloway’s success does not surprise his fiancée, Jamie Boyd, she was shocked by his decision to appear on “Dancing With The Stars.” Galloway, after all, had never danced before joining the hit television show.

“It shows his determination and willingness to take on a challenge,” Boyd says. “He told me he was going to be super uncomfortable, but it was something that was going to push him because it is way out of his comfort zone. I could see him doing ‘Survivor’ but ‘Dancing’ was way out in left field, in true Galloway fashion. Then he turned out to be a beautiful dancer. And every week you could see how hard he was working.”

Galloway’s goal was to get through the first couple of weeks, but he made it all the way to the finals, finishing in third place. “In my opinion, Noah did win because of the number of people he touched and inspired every week,” Boyd says.

Whether it’s learning to dance or completing a



Aug. 6, 2009

War with al-Qaida

The Obama administration stops using the phrase “war on terror” and announces that the United States is at war with al-Qaida, not involved in a global war on terrorism. *The Washington Times* calls it official when then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton says the administration will not use the term “war on terror.”

DoD photo



DoD photo

Nov. 5, 2009 Fort Hood shootings

Nidal Malik Hasan, a U.S. Army major and psychiatrist with ties to al-Qaida recruiter and motivator Anwar al-Awlaki, shoots and kills 13 people and injures more than 30 others at the Texas Army base.

Nearly 5,500 U.S. troops were wounded in action in 2010, more than double the rate in 2009, **but fewer than 7.9 percent of those hit died from their wounds.** That’s an improvement over 11 percent in 2009 and 14.3 percent in 2008. *Source: The New York Times*



DoD photo

**SAVE
OVER 75%!**



Common reverse

Own a Prized Set of WWII Silver Mercury Dimes!

Last 5 Years of a Classic Series 1941-1945...

Remember America's great World War II victory in Europe and the Pacific with a prized 5-coin set of 1941-1945 Mercury dimes – all struck in 90% fine silver! This historic circulated set represents every year of U.S. involvement in WWII and contains the last 5 years of a classic silver series....

Order your set by deadline for **ONLY \$9.95** – a savings of **OVER 75% OFF** the regular price of ~~\$44.50~~ – and

get a **FREE** reprocessed 1943 Steel Cent (struck to save copper for the war). You'll also receive our fully illustrated catalog, plus other fascinating selections from our Free Examination Coins-on-Approval Service, from which you may purchase any or none of the coins – return balance in 15 days – with option to cancel at any time.

**Mail coupon today or visit
www.LittletonCoin.com/specials**

Due to fluctuations in the coin market, prices and limits are subject to change.

45-Day Money Back Guarantee of Satisfaction

FREE!

when you order by deadline



**Reprocessed 1943
Steel Cent!**
Minted in steel to save
copper for the war effort.

©2015 LCC, LLC

Special Offer for New Customers Only

☒ **YES!** Please send my 1941-1945 WWII Silver Mercury Dime Set for **ONLY \$9.95** – regularly ~~\$44.50~~, plus **FREE** Shipping (limit 3 sets). Also send my **FREE** reprocessed 1943 Steel Cent (one per customer, please).

Method of payment:

- ☐ Check or Money Order payable to Littleton Coin Co.
☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ American Express ☐ Discover Network

Card No.

Exp. Date

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Name

Please print your complete name and address clearly

Address

Apt#

City

State

Zip

E-Mail

Order Deadline: 12:00 Midnight, October 31, 2015

How Many Sets (limit 3): _____

Total Cost @ \$9.95 per set: \$ _____



Add Custom Mercury Dime Display Folders & **SAVE 15%** @ \$2.95 each! (Regularly ~~\$3.49~~): \$ _____

Shipping & Handling: **\$ FREE!**

Total Amount: \$ _____

Please send coupon to:



**Littleton
Coin Company**

Dept. 3SN407
1309 Mt. Eustis Road
Littleton NH 03561-3737

America's Favorite Coin Source • TRUSTED SINCE 1945

difficult endurance event, Galloway goes into it with a full heart, open mind and relentless energy.

“Whatever it is, you have got to do it, and you have got to do it strong,” he advises veterans and others battling disabilities. “I don’t care if you get into quilting, but you be the best quilter out there. That’s what you have to do. You have to take on something and let it consume you because if you don’t let that hobby in a positive way consume you, there’s going to be a negative thing that’s going to take that spot.”

It took Galloway time to climb out of the funk that began in darkness on Dec. 19, 2005. In time, he turned negative feelings into positive energy and rebuilt his life. Still, his friends notice a change in Galloway’s demeanor when the calendar turns to December.

“It’s this constant reminder of what happened to me,” he says. “December was just a bad month in general for our company. We lost a lot of guys in that month. It wasn’t until the past two years that Dec. 19 wasn’t a date that was pulling me down, but it’s a date that I am starting to feel like that’s where everything changed. I went through a lot of depression, and it was something that hurt to think about, but now I am doing something with it. I am connecting with veterans. I am doing all of these different things, and for that I am proud of it.”

“If I could go back in time, would I stop it from happening? Probably not. I would love to have my arm and leg back, but I probably wouldn’t change it. Where I am at now is where I need to be.”

Thanks to appearances on “Dancing” and in *Men’s Health*, Galloway now chats with Demi Moore (daughter Rumer was also on “Dancing”) and hobnobs with actors like David Spade. “You could say that my life is a mixture of Forrest Gump and Joe Dirt.”

Galloway is easily recognized whether he is dining at a favorite restaurant in his rural Alabama community or walking the busy streets of New York City. Older veterans stop him and thank him for his sacrifice. Middle-aged women gravitate toward him, asking for an autograph or selfie.

Galloway reveres the veterans and chats up his adoring fans with ease. These conversations help him continue to share his message and inspire those he meets. That comes as no surprise to those who know him best.

“I’ve learned a lot from Noah,” Eisenberg says. “I have a lot of respect for Noah. When he came back from Iraq, he put on an air that things were good. But things were not good. In his darkest moments, he still wanted to inspire others.”

“What you see today is 10 years of very hard work. He put in the hours, he put in the work. I never dreamed that he would carry it this far. Never did I dream that he would run the Marine Corps Marathon or Bataan Death March. Now, nothing he does surprises me. Noah has no limitations.” 🌿

Henry Howard is deputy director of media and communications for The American Legion.



Photo by Thomas Wisenand

NOV. 6, 2009

‘We give a sh*t’

When 300 insurgents attack Combat Outpost Keating in Afghanistan on Oct. 3, members of Bravo Troop 3-61 Cavalry from Fort Carson, Colo., are forced to call in an airstrike on their own position. Lost are all their personal items, including computers, cameras, books and more. The American Legion receives an email from one of the 56 survivors, saying, “Most people back home don’t even know (what we’re doing here). No one gives a sh*t.” The Legion’s COP Keating Relief Fund is born, quickly raising \$50,000. Target matches that in gift cards and merchandise, and Legionnaires in Colorado Springs and Minneapolis receive regional media coverage while shopping for the troops. Computer Science Corp. offers laptop computers, and the Legion works with Veterans of Valor to purchase iPods. In all, donations top \$200,000.

ATTENTION: WOMEN IN MILITARY and MILITARY WIVES

Please pay careful attention to the following
concerning your health and legal rights:

The Use of Talc Body Powder Increases the Risk of Ovarian Cancer

- **WebMD.** “The use of talc may increase the risk of ovarian cancer. Talcum powder dusted on the perineum (the area between the vagina and the anus) may reach the ovaries by entering the vagina.”
- **Journal of Cancer Prevention Research.** “Genital powder use has been associated with risk of epithelial ovarian cancer in some...epidemiologic investigations, possibly reflecting the carcinogenic effects of talc particles found in most of these products.”
- **Daily Mail.** “Women who use talcum powder every day to keep fresh are 40 percent more likely to develop ovarian cancer”



If you, a family member, or a loved one has ovarian cancer or died of ovarian cancer and used talcum powder on a regular basis for over five years, you may be entitled to compensation. Please contact the Branch Law Firm, a well-known national law firm that has been in business over 45 years, for a free initial interview and consultation.

Turner W. Branch, a principal and senior partner of the Branch Law Firm, retired as a 1st Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps in 1968. He served on active duty in Camp Pendleton, California and at the Marine Corps Air Facility (MCAF) in Santa Ana, California. While at Camp Pendleton he served with the Second Battalion, Fifth Marines, First Marine Division (FMF) USMC.



Call today, the **Branch Law Firm, 1-800-828-4529**
or visit our website at **www.branchlawfirm.com**

OFFICES

New Mexico 2025 Rio Grande Boulevard, NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104
Texas 7660 Woodway, Suite 315, Houston, TX 77063





University of Akron student and Post 808 Commander Steven Downey, center, speaks at the post's monthly meeting in the Musson Veterans Lounge at the University of Akron.

Photo by Alex Slitz

The post-9/11 student veteran

Veterans discover that they are often their own best advocates on campus.

BY ANDY ROMEY

Dedicated post-9/11 student veterans have founded over a dozen American Legion posts nationwide in recent years. Thriving on the passion of their young founders and operating according to the principle of “mutual helpfulness” found in the preamble of the Legion’s constitution, the posts fill important niches at their institutions, advocating for student veterans before college administrators and even state legislatures. They also offer the same kind of fellowship veterans enjoyed in the military.

Among the new charters are posts at traditional brick-and-mortar schools, such as NDSU Post 400 at North Dakota State University, a school with about 15,000 students and the kind of campus life associated with the traditional college experience. Posts such as Post 397 at Hodges University in Fort Myers, Fla., meanwhile, offer a rallying point at non-traditional schools for student veterans scattered in a commuter environment.

Many campus posts across the country meet via the Internet through online meeting software. The virtual meetings are hosted at a physical location by University of Akron Post 808 in Ohio. Legionnaires from other campus posts dial in to

discuss best practices and issues facing student veterans on campus.

Post 808 is among the newest campus posts. Founded in July 2014, it is one of the fastest-growing posts in its state, with about 150 members. In a year’s time, the post’s founders have planted a sizable footprint at the school, hosting tailgate events with fraternities and sororities before football games and earning a seat on a veterans committee that advises the administration on issues faced by students who served in the military.

Members say they have adopted the Legion’s values and its model of reaching out to local veterans and the community to achieve success.

“This post is an evolution for The American Legion,” says Post 808 Commander Steven Downey, an Army veteran and University of Akron senior. “The American Legion started by filling a need that was perfect at the time for World War I veterans coming home. These new veterans need something different: we want mentorship, entrepreneurship, job placement and college degrees. This post is the perfect atmosphere for providing that.”

The post’s greatest success is a mentorship

program that pairs its student members with veteran mentors from the school's faculty and alumni bases. A student member fills out a questionnaire when he or she joins the post, listing major, branch of service and career interests. The post then works with the university to find a veteran alumnus or faculty member to serve as a mentor during the journey through school and, ultimately, to a satisfying career.

"We're able to take veterans who want help and connect them with someone who can provide the help that is needed," Downey says.

Post 808 is the brainchild of its adjutant, Jay Musson, a Vietnam War veteran and fixture on the University of Akron's campus. Musson was a member of a traditional Legion post along Lake Erie in northern Ohio. He realized that a Legion post would fit well on his alma mater, a campus with about 1,200 student veterans.

Musson remembers the difficulty of his transition after he came home. Those experiences were fresh in his mind when he started Post 808. His family foundation, the Musson Foundation, had already donated \$220,000 to build a veterans lounge inside the school's new football stadium where student veterans can socialize, study, watch TV, access the Internet and even meet with VA health professionals through an online video chat via VA's Telehealth program.

The post addresses the needs and obstacles that student veterans face, Musson says. "Being a veteran and coming back from Vietnam to here and really being on my own, I remember that vividly. I don't want those kids to go through

anything like that. (Vietnam) was a whole different war. There are just a lot of administrative hassles that these kids are dealing with now. If I were a student coming back now, I would feel lost among all the benefits: Title this or Title that, or timing issues with receiving money. Those are the things we are trying to overcome."

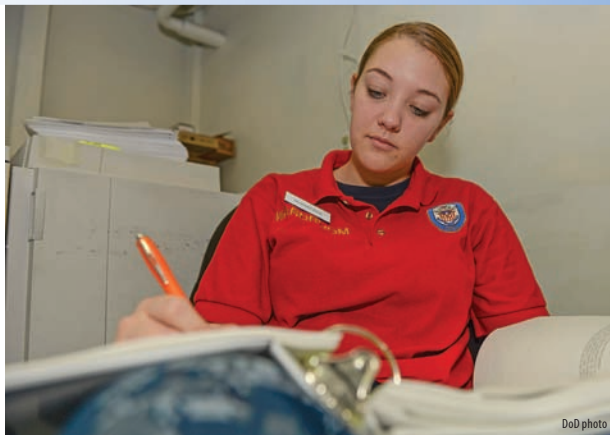
Musson has enlisted the help of an American Legion service officer who, like him, is an Akron alumnus. With an eye on easing transition burdens, post members successfully lobbied the university to create a special veterans-only English and composition class, as well as a POW-MIA chair behind the northern end zone in the football stadium.

"This is the Legion's mission at work: veterans helping veterans," says D.J. Douglass, a junior at the school and Post 808's second vice commander. "When you are active-duty military, that's all you do. That's what your life is. You learn to love your brothers and sisters and look after them."

Tony Stevens, a sociology major and Post 808 member, joined in hopes of finding some of the camaraderie he enjoyed in the military, and to be among other students who are near his age and have similar life experiences.

"You go to class with these kids who are 18 or 19 ... it is stressful," Stevens says. "When I was their age, I was in Iraq. By my 22nd birthday, I was in Afghanistan – quite a different experience from theirs." 🌿

Andy Romey is assistant editor for the Marketing, Media & Communications Division of The American Legion.



A 2008 survey of 690 educational institutions by the American Council on Education found that **62 percent provided programs and services for veterans**. A 2012 survey by the Institute for Veterans and Military Families in Syracuse, N.Y., found that post-9/11 veterans believe that **63 percent of their professors** and **70 percent of their nonveteran classmates** do not understand the challenges they face.



99 percent of post-9/11 veterans have finished high school or an equivalent.

72 percent of post-9/11 veterans have taken college classes. Source: George W. Bush Institute



StreetShares co-founder and CEO Mark Rockefeller, a member of American Legion Post 1 in Washington, D.C., says the idea for the company was born in the midst of the recent lending scandal. Photo courtesy StreetShares

StreetShares: Veterans funding veterans

Company connects entrepreneurs with loans, mixing tech and Main Street service.

BY HENRY HOWARD

Post-9/11 veteran Mark Rockefeller is the chief executive officer and co-founder of StreetShares, a Washington-area company described as “‘Shark Tank’ meets eBay” for business loans. Before becoming an entrepreneur, Rockefeller was an Air Force officer, an attorney and worked on a social enterprise project in Africa.

StreetShares, Rockefeller says, is a “community of veterans helping veterans.” The company helps connect entrepreneurs (about 60 percent of whom are veterans) with lenders (about 40 percent veterans) to attain loans to help their businesses grow. Applications are quickly processed and lenders place bids (for a \$10,000 loan at 8 percent

interest, for example). StreetShares then groups the lowest bids into a proposal for the applicant, who can accept or decline.

Rockefeller, who is a member of American Legion Post 1 in Washington and serves on the Legion’s Small Business Task Force, discussed his military experience, StreetShares and more in a recent interview.

Describe your military experience.

I was in the Air Force for nine years. Joined after college. I was commissioned through ROTC out of the University of Colorado. I was in for a couple of years doing government acquisitions work, and

then went on to law school. I was a JAG lawyer for the majority of that time. I was deployed to Iraq and worked at the Central Criminal Court of Iraq, which meant that I represented the coalition in the Iraqi court system to help bring charges against terror suspects.

How did your military experience lead you to become an entrepreneur?

No. 1, it gives you experience running a team. In the military you are given – or you set – goals. You are given some resources, budget, troops or whatever, and you go out and break that goal up into small chewable pieces and just go after it. That experience is very similar as an entrepreneur. I think the military prepares people to be entrepreneurs in a very positive way. The second thing is – in at least my case – it also created the opportunity for me to see the need we are solving.

Why is it important for veterans to have the opportunity to become entrepreneurs?

There is a tremendous history in the United States of veterans returning from foreign wars or military service and becoming entrepreneurs, like the World War II generation. There was a study out of Syracuse University that found that 49 percent of that generation came back and owned or ran a business at some point in their lives. That's a huge number, so half of that generation became entrepreneurs, and when we think about that greatest generation, in part what made them so great was what they did when they got back. Certainly what they did on the foreign battlefields, but also what they did at home. If you fast-forward to my generation, the Iraq and Afghanistan veterans, many of us want to do what our grandparents did. We want to do what that greatest generation did. The veterans in my generation also want to become entrepreneurs, but we all separated from the military right around or shortly after the financial crisis, and so we had the same ambitions and dreams as our grandparents but the resources and opportunities were not there as much. Back in 1945, when our grandparents left the service, there were 13,000 community banks. They were on Main Street. They were connected with their communities. You could go in and get a bank loan in part based on your business and the financials, and part based on trust because they knew you. They knew who you were. We have half the number of banks now. Banks are consolidated. Banks are bigger. Banks are more removed from Main Street now. Regulatory burdens placed on

banks make it actually very difficult for them to serve small businesses with small loans. There are a lot of reasons that are forcing banks out of serving small businesses well, but my generation of veterans still wants to be entrepreneurs the way our grandparents were.

How was the concept for StreetShares born?

I separated from the military in 2010. I worked in the D.C. office of a big Wall Street law firm called Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy. The main thing I did there was work on the Lehman Brothers issue. We were trying to get some investors back their money after the Lehman collapse, so it gave me a very nice front-row seat to the financial crisis and kind of what caused it. I got to see under the hood a little bit. Then I found myself with a desire to help veterans and I certainly had a connection to my fellow veterans, but also this sort of knowledge, this kind of new-found knowledge of how things worked. I wanted to create something that would bridge the gap between Wall Street money and veterans. The idea came reading some articles in 2012, and like any idea it begins with kind of a germ of an idea and then you test that idea. I consulted with a whole bunch of people, smart advisers. We kind of kicked this idea around: is this feasible? Could we do this? It benefited from a lot of shaping by those folks, my co-founders shaped it tremendously. The StreetShares idea that we have now is a collective product of a lot of big brains, bigger than mine. It began with seeing a need in my fellow veterans and then sort of having an understanding of how Wall Street worked and believing that there was a way to create something to bridge that gap.

How does StreetShares assist entrepreneurs?

A veteran who owns a small business goes to **StreetShares.com** and applies for a funding request or loan request. These are all loans, not equity, and we underwrite them on the front end, so we do our due diligence to make sure they are a good fit. Then we post them on the platform. Every loan that has posted to the platform has been funded. On the platform are all kinds of investors – some of them big institutions, some managed funds that people invest in, wealthy individuals who are investing, other individual investors – bid to back part of this loan. So if someone needs a \$50,000 loan, they would post that loan request on StreetShares. Their profile would have some information about their business and their financials, and maybe a pitch. Then

investors look at that loan request and can name how much of that loan they want to back. They don't have to back the whole thing. They can back just a small part of it and the interest rate they require to back that loan. Somebody might ask for a \$50,000 loan and you would say, "I will fund \$100 of that, but only if the rate is 10 percent, 8 percent or whatever." It is a bit like an eBay auction. All these people are bidding to back this loan. We combine all the lowest bids, the least expensive interest-rate bids, into one loan. The borrower gets the blended rate of all the lowest bids, so we in essence take a single loan request

and break it up into a bunch of tiny loans and people bid to fund those little loans and we combine all the lowest bids into one big loan. We at StreetShares issue that loan to the borrower so they don't have to mess with all these people on the Internet, and then as they make their payments our platform splits that money and gives it to each investor based on the rate they bid. The borrowers love it because they get the lowest possible private loan rate because folks are competing to lend to them, and investors love it because they know exactly what they are going to get because they set the rate on their own returns.

Entrepreneur wraps unique business, critical loan into growing endeavor

The leadership experience, teamwork skills and logistics training Nancy Sunderland acquired in the military helped her become an entrepreneur.

Sunderland, who served in the Marine Corps from 1995 to 1999, was used to juggling priorities and responsibilities. But as her family grew, even running simple errands became complicated.

"I had my first child when I was still active-duty," says Sunderland, whose five children range from 3 to 16. "I had a lot of fears of diaper bags, stroller, car seat, whatever, and even accomplishing a simple task like going to the grocery was difficult. I got a baby carrier and was able to much more easily navigate life as a new young mom, hands-free. Over the years, with each child, I discovered a new, better, more comfortable type of baby carrier. With my fifth I discovered woven wraps, and I fell in love because they were so versatile, comfortable and beautiful."

When she learned the wraps were manufactured overseas, the entrepreneur process began, and Poe Wovens was born. (Her company's original name was Poésie Tissé, which means "woven poetry" in French, in honor of her French Canadian parents.) Sunderland, a Legionnaire, made sure that the company stayed local by using an area supply chain and hiring people near her home in Vermont.

"I want to support my local economy as much as possible," Sunderland says. "Poe Wovens has amazing quality. Our designs are classic and timeless as opposed to trendy. I think that a differentiating feature for Poe Wovens is that our wraps and slings are attractive to moms and dads, not just women, because of our designs."

When Sunderland's business required a second round of funding, she sought assistance. Enter StreetShares, as recommended by her mentor.

"It was a crucial time for us," she recalls. "We needed to increase our inventory levels, update our website and a few other things, so that influx of capital allowed us to grow from being a purely online e-commerce business to moving into being in more stores and boutiques."

Sunderland, whose loan was quickly approved, recommends StreetShares to other entrepreneurs. "It's really difficult to get capital for a startup business, especially one that doesn't have a lot of equipment, land or things banks want to use as collateral. Being a lender is risky, and I was thankful that StreetShares was willing to lend to a woman."

— Henry Howard

Photo by Belle Hiver



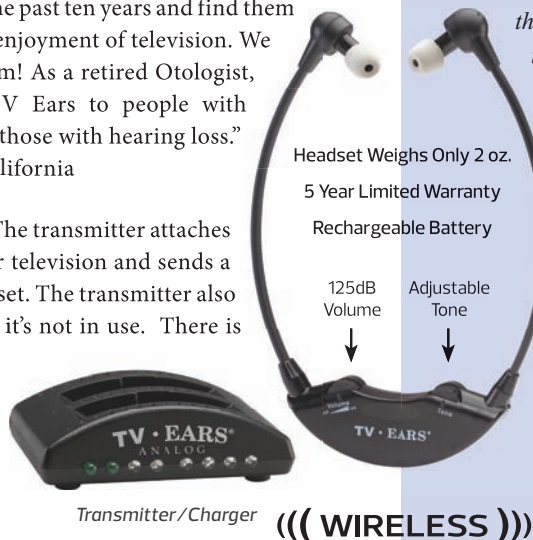
"TV Ears saved our marriage!"

- Darlene and Jack B., CA

The **Voice Clarifying TV Ears Headset** is specifically designed for clear, distinct, TV listening, without turning up the volume. With TV Ears wireless technology, you set your own headset volume and tone, while other TV listeners hear the television at a volume level that's comfortable for them. You can even listen through the headset only and put the TV on mute if the situation calls for a quiet environment... maybe a family member is sleeping in the next room. Or perhaps you are the only one who is interested in listening to the ballgame.

Doctor Recommended TV Ears! Proprietary Voice Clarifying Circuitry® makes words easier to discern and reduces background noise so television dialog is understandable. That's why "...my wife and I have used TV Ears almost daily for the past ten years and find them an invaluable help in our enjoyment of television. We would not be without them! As a retired Otologist, I heartily recommend TV Ears to people with normal hearing as well as those with hearing loss." - Robert Forbes, M.D., California

TV Ears is Easy to Use! The transmitter attaches to the audio ports on your television and sends a signal to the wireless headset. The transmitter also charges the headset while it's not in use. There is no complicated technology to understand and no expensive batteries to replace...just sit down and enjoy the show!



Voice Clarifying TV Ears Headset

- ▶ Over 2 Million Satisfied Users
- ▶ Volume up to 125 decibels
- ▶ 5 Year Limited Warranty
- ▶ TV dialog is clear and understandable



New Special Offer!



Hear television dialog clearly without disturbing others with loud TV volume!

"Now my husband can have the volume as loud as he needs and I can have the TV at my hearing level. "TV Ears" are so comfortable that Jack forgets he has them on! He can once again hear and understand the dialog."

- Darlene & Jack B., CA

Risk Free Trial. TV Ears 5.0 Analog comes with a 30-day risk free trial. If you're not completely satisfied, return it for a full refund of the purchase price.

TV Ears 5.0.....~~\$129.95~~
Special Offer
Now \$59.95 + s&h

For fastest service, call toll-free between 6am and 6pm PST Monday through Friday.

1-800-379-7832

or visit

www.tvears.com

Please mention Promotion Code **35514**

TV EARS®

TV Ears is a trademark of TV Ears, Inc. © 2015 TV Ears, Inc. All Rights Reserved

If I am an entrepreneur, what should I have accomplished before I visit the site?

The requirements are very, very simple. Your business has to have been around for one year, have \$25,000 in revenues and a decent owner FICO score. It doesn't have to be great, but decent. Those are much more flexible requirements than the bank. Banks typically won't touch you until two or three years, a couple hundred thousand dollars in revenue, and FICO scores 680 and above.

So what's in it for the investors?

In essence, we found that when the investor is a veteran and the borrower is a veteran, the investors are actually bidding lower because they trust those people more. Lending is all about trust. I trust that you are going to do right and pay me back if I am investing in you. When you match people by shared affinity, you can tap into that trust and use that to decrease the cost of lending, so the rate the borrower pays goes down because we are using their trust to make the loan less risky to the borrower and investor.

Of the businesses that have used StreetShares, is there a particular success story that means a lot to you?

Combat Flip Flops is a company founded by a couple of Army Rangers. The CEO is a guy named Matt Griffith. Matt's company manufactures flip-flops, sarongs and all kinds of apparel and

accessories, but they do it in dangerous places. It began with this idea when they were in Afghanistan. There was a factory that was affected by the conflict and those workers were put out of work. After Matt left the military he went back there and they had these local women make flip-flops, and they sell them here in the United States on the Internet. Matt couldn't get a traditional loan from a bank because they manufacture in Afghanistan, Colombia and these kinds of dangerous places, so there were insurance issues. Our investors here at StreetShares loved Matt's idea and so they funded him. With that he built up some inventory and got his big break in the media. So a veteran-owned company helping another veteran-owned company succeeded. It's an example of veterans turning to each other when institutions aren't there to help.

How has The American Legion played a role in StreetShares?

The Legion has been extremely helpful. The veterans in my office, like me, are all Legionnaires. We are at Post 1 here in D.C. Fellow members of the Legion's Small Business Task Force were actually some of the very first people to even learn about StreetShares. The Legion actually passed a resolution at the national convention last summer in Charlotte in support of what we are doing: peer-to-peer lending for veterans. The Legion very smartly saw that there's this population of veterans who need this service. They were kind of on the cutting



March 7, 2010

The Hurt Locker, a critically acclaimed film about a three-man bomb disposal team and the addictive rush of combat action in Iraq, is nominated for nine Academy Awards and wins six, including Best Picture.

May 2, 2011

Osama bin Laden killed

Operation Neptune Spear, led by U.S. Navy SEAL Team Six, is successfully carried out at a compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan. Following the killing of bin Laden, U.S. forces take his body to Afghanistan for identification before burying him at sea while onboard USS *Carl Vinson*.



Getty Images

Sept. 30, 2011

U.S.-born cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, a top figure in al-Qaida and planner of numerous attacks, is killed in Yemen in a U.S. drone strike.

OFFICIAL MILITARY VETERAN HATS & RINGS

All hats are embroidered, solid back, 100% brush cotton twill. Adjustable strap - one size fits all.



SUPER SALE **\$12⁹⁵ ONLY EA.** **All Hats Available With or Without Eggs***
 *Richly Embroidered Scrambled Eggs Add \$5ea. (shown on brim)

MILITARY SERVICE RINGS LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY



Richly crafted in 18K gold electroplate or in white rhodium plated, hand finished and precisely set with Ruby or Sapphire Austrian crystal. Logos are etched into stone with gold leaf, each side contains finely sculpted emblems of each branch. Or choose our new rings in white rhodium plated with 18K gold electroplated insignias (shown on top) **Perfect Gift!**

Order Toll Free: 1-866-741-7874 or at www.RushIndustries.com. Use Code: HR386RJ

30 DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE (less S&H)

FREE Gift Pouch!

Please select Style and Quantity:

Military Hats: Army Navy Marines Air Force Coast Guard USA Pride WWII Korea Vietnam Disabled Veteran

No Eggs ☐ Eggs Add \$5 (Shown Above) ☐

Military Rings: Army Navy Marines Air Force Coast Guard Special Forces Ring Size(s):
 Silver Color w/o Stone ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ N/A N/A 8 9 10
 Gold Color w/ Stone ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 11 12 13
 Silver Color w/ Stone ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 14 15

For Rings or Hats add \$4.95 S&H plus \$1.95 for each add'l item

Note: For personal checks, there will be a 10 day verification period.

Send to: Rush Industries, Inc. Dept. (HR386RJ)
 263 Horton Highway, Mineola, NY 11501

Enclosed is \$ or charge it

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS ☐ DISCOVER

Acct. #: Exp. Date: /

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone # () _____ Email: _____

edge of this thing, actually very sort of leap-forward cutting edge to see this kind of new way of financing happening and publicly supporting it with a resolution. The Legion has been fabulous to us.

On your website you have bios of yourself and other employees, and the last thing in each of them is their favorite Main Street. Why?

The idea of StreetShares is to be about Main Street funding. As the banks have gotten bigger and sort of put some distance between themselves and Main Street, there is a need to kind of bridge that gap and in a sense that's what we are doing. We are sort of bringing back the George Bailey days of banking, when you knew the party with whom you were getting money. You knew your banker. We are doing that online because when an investor invests in a business it's fully transparent. They know who each other is. The investor can see the business' social media profile, pictures or whatever they want to share. We are creating this little funding community that is focused on the American Main Street. We have a very diverse team from all different places in the country, and we thought that it would be very interesting to see what folks' favorite Main Street was because we are here to serve the American Main Street.

You picked Breckenridge, Colo. Why?

I am from Colorado. I spent a lot of time skiing and climbing in those mountains, and Breckenridge is

just a quaint little town with Victorian architecture. I have spent many, many hours in my young life on Main Street there in Breckenridge. There is a good pizza joint there that I love and some shops. It's a great area.

What would you like Legionnaires to know about StreetShares?

I would like them to realize that we are trying to build a funding community here and we would like them to get involved. This is a unique community of veterans helping veterans in a very tangible way. I think the mission of The American Legion is about patriotism, it's about faith, it's about military service and those are the same values that we share here. Those are values that seem increasingly rare, I think, in our current culture. I think they are certainly rare in banking. We have tried to create something where like-minded people can come together and fund each other. We trust each other as veterans, as Legionnaires, and there's a way to then take that trust and allow folks to make good investment returns off it and help folks get their businesses funded. We have created that marketplace and I think I would ask that my fellow Legionnaires spread the word that we exist. That's the biggest challenge right now, is educating the world that we are here. 🌿

Henry Howard is deputy director of media and communications for The American Legion.



Oct. 21, 2011

U.S. troop withdrawal from Iraq

President Obama announces that all remaining U.S. troops and trainers will leave Iraq, bringing the mission to an end. Combat troops withdraw on Dec. 18, 2011, but the U.S. embassy continues to maintain a staff of more than 20,000, including U.S. Marine Embassy Guards and up to 5,000 private military contractors.

“Despite our inability to bridge the committee's significant differences, we end this process united in our belief that the nation's fiscal crisis must be addressed and that we cannot leave it for the next generation to solve.”

Statement from the co-chairs of the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction, Nov. 21, 2011

Nov. 21, 2011

The 'super committee'

The bipartisan U.S. Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction – dubbed the “super committee” – fails to agree on a strategy to cut the federal deficit by more than \$4 trillion over the coming decade. This leads to automatic cuts through sequestration and reduces wartime troop end strength.



Power Plant Employees and Contractors

If you or a family member ever worked at a power plant, you could have been exposed to asbestos.

To keep your right to compensation if you become ill in the future (or have asbestos-related illness today), you must submit a claim by December 14, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time.

Energy Future Holdings Corp., Ebasco Services, Inc., EECI, Inc. and certain subsidiaries (“EFH”) owned, operated, maintained, or built certain power plants across the United States and in other countries where asbestos was present. Workers at these power plants (and family members and others who came into contact with these workers) may have been exposed to asbestos.

Anyone who has a claim today against EFH for asbestos-related illness or who may develop an asbestos-related illness in the future, must submit a claim by **December 14, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time** to be eligible for compensation now or in the future.

What is asbestos?

Asbestos is a fiber which was used as insulation in walls, wires, pipes, boilers, generators, steam traps, pumps, valves, electrical boards, gaskets, packing material, turbines, compressors, cement and cement pipes. Workers responsible for building and maintaining power plants and equipment also wore insulated clothing or gear that may have contained asbestos. Virtually all power plants built before 1980 used or contained asbestos-containing products.

Asbestos-related illnesses can be very serious or fatal and include diseases such as mesothelioma, lung cancer, laryngeal cancer, esophageal cancer, pharyngeal cancer, stomach cancer and asbestosis. Even if your exposure to asbestos was many years ago and you are not sick today, this notice could affect you. Asbestos-related illness can occur decades and even 50 years after the exposure to asbestos that caused the illness.

Which power plants are included?

You or a family member could have been exposed at any of the power plants related to EFH. These power plants were located across the United States and some in foreign countries. For a list of the included power plants, visit the website below or call 1-877-276-7311.

How could this affect me?

You could have been exposed to asbestos if you or a family member worked at any of the included power plants as an employee, a contractor, or in any other role. You also could have been exposed by coming in contact with another person who worked at a power plant (for example, if asbestos was brought home on your spouse or parent’s clothing). You may also file a claim on behalf of a deceased family member.

What do I do now?

If you believe that you or a family member may have been exposed to asbestos at an included plant, submit a claim by **December 14, 2015, at 5:00 p.m., prevailing Eastern Time.** Go to www.EFHAsbestosClaims.com to submit your claim online. To get a paper claim form, visit the website or call 1-877-276-7311. Submitting a claim preserves your right to ask for money if you develop asbestos-related illness in the future.

You can submit a claim yourself or you can ask a lawyer to help you. If you are not ill today, completing a claim takes about five minutes.

What if I do nothing?

If you do not submit a claim and later develop asbestos-related disease, you will **not** be eligible for compensation from EFH. Even if you have not been diagnosed with disease or experienced symptoms, you must make a claim to preserve your right to compensation if you develop an asbestos-related illness in the future.

File a Claim Now

Go to www.EFHAsbestosClaims.com to file a claim online or call 1-877-276-7311 to request a claim form be sent to you.

1-877-276-7311 ■ www.EFHAsbestosClaims.com



Andrew Robinson undergoes physical therapy at the San Diego VA in 2007. A Marine Corps veteran, he suffered spinal cord damage from injuries sustained in Fallujah, Iraq, the previous year. Getty Images

The Moral Contract

VA entered the 21st century unprepared for a new wave of veterans. As the situation worsened, its challenge remains to regain trust.

BY KEN OLSEN

When Marine Corps and Iraq war veteran Seth Moulton went to the Washington, D.C., VA Medical Center for hernia treatment last winter, hospital staff told him they had no record he was a veteran. After the Boston VA agreed to send verification that Moulton was eligible for care, a broken fax machine created another problem.

Before it was all over, Moulton – a Democratic congressman from Massachusetts – was sent home from surgery without the painkillers his doctors prescribed. If this is the sort of care a congressman receives, Moulton told National Public Radio, imagine what it's like for other veterans who seek treatment from VA.

Moulton's experience is one among thousands that illustrates VA's ongoing struggle to make the transition into the 21st century and provide care for a new generation of war veterans. When the United States

went to war in Afghanistan and Iraq, VA was still mired in a 1940s approach to claims processing, infrastructure and computer technology. No one prepared VA for the dramatic increase in demand for services the wars would generate, and the agency continued to predict a decrease in veteran numbers long after the wars had bogged down. VA stuck with plans to close some hospitals and reduce services at others, as if world peace was imminent and the aging Vietnam War generation would not continue to need more and more care.

Things got worse. VA was also unprepared for a dramatic increase in survival rates and more complex injuries. It also didn't plan for expensive new treatments for perplexing illnesses such as hepatitis C, which affects Vietnam War veterans at a much higher rate than the general population. The agency was late to respond to the record number of

female veterans who came home looking for VA health care relevant to their needs. Signature conditions of the wars included traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder, military sexual trauma and debilitating back, knee and hip injuries, all of which have been treated with heavy emphasis on pharmaceuticals for pain, depression and anxiety. Add multiple deployments for most servicemembers, with little recovery time between stints, and it's easy to see why half the all-volunteer force is eligible for permanent disability benefits and VA continues to struggle to get in front of demand.

The scandal that erupted in the spring of 2014 drew national public attention to the long-brewing catastrophe of VA's inability to provide timely access to quality care for all the veterans the department is responsible to serve. More than a year after the falsification of appointment records and other actions to cover up VA's access problems, the pressing question today is this: how can a bureaucracy of its magnitude, with more than 310,000 employees, transform itself into a health-care system veterans can trust?

FIRST RESPONDERS The initial response to what was headlined "the Phoenix VA scandal" was promising. VA Undersecretary for Health Robert Petzel, a defiant denier of the department's shortcomings, was forced out in the weeks after the story broke. That was followed by the departure of VA Secretary Eric Shinseki, who distinguished himself from his VA peers by accepting responsibility for the crisis and acknowledging that he was too trusting of senior managers.

Acting VA Secretary Sloan Gibson and, later, new VA Secretary Robert McDonald, quickly dug in. They eliminated fiscal 2014 performance bonuses for VA health-care executives. Disciplinary action was proposed against 130 VA employees implicated in falsifying patient wait times and keeping secret patient waiting lists at more than 100 VA medical centers nationwide.

VA hired nearly 1,100 new physicians and 2,730 nurses after April 2014, as well as about 4,700 other staff members in what the department regarded as "critical occupations." It leased new clinic space and has handled 2.7 million more patient appointments than in the previous year.

McDonald dropped VA's legal challenge to a federal court order that the department stop leasing pieces of its West Los Angeles campus to commercial businesses and instead use the property to care

for veterans, as the deed transferring the land to the federal government in 1888 dictated. He also acknowledged that VA has to address the massive homeless-veteran problem in Los Angeles if it is serious about ending veteran homelessness overall.

Congress dug in as well, with emergency appropriations to address the patient backlog and funds for a new program that allows veterans to get care outside VA when appointment delays and distance to VA facilities are too great. It passed legislation making it easier to fire poor-performing senior VA executives.

The American Legion, meanwhile, conducted town hall meetings, crisis command centers and benefits assistance events across the country, inviting local VA officials to hear veterans' grievances and get them connected to care. Thousands of veterans had their claims fast-tracked as a result of the Legion's outreach. More than \$1 million in retroactive benefits was awarded.

Yet, more than a year after the Phoenix scandal broke, many of VA's problems persist, and some have worsened. Fifty percent more veterans are waiting a month or longer for their medical appointments this year than they were in the spring of 2014, according to *The New York Times*. The number of medically complex patients each VA health-care provider is required to see is staggering, and there is danger that the workload will lead to provider burnout and life-threatening mistakes, warns Katherine Mitchell, one of the Phoenix VA physicians who sounded the alarm about poor patient care there in 2014.

VA efforts to refer more patients to specialists outside its health-care system are hamstrung because of the department's reputation for "low pay and slow pay," Mitchell says, adding that "too many specialists have been burned by VA." Nationally, that reputation has stymied VA's efforts to find enough hepatitis C and mental health specialists even as up to a third of the post-9/11 generation of combat veterans come home with a PTSD diagnosis.

The Denver VA hospital construction project is \$1 billion over budget and its completion date remains uncertain. And while the chief of VA's building program was allowed to retire with his full pension, one cost-cutting solution offered was to drop plans for a new PTSD clinic.

U.S. Rep. Jeff Miller, R-Fla., chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, has been critical and vocal about VA's failure to fire a single employee in connection with last year's waiting list scandal.

“Rather than disciplining bad employees, VA often just transfers them to other VA facilities or puts them on paid leave for months on end, ensuring taxpayer money is wasted,” Miller said during the heat of the controversy.

By May 2015, new allegations surfaced that VA employees use government-issued credit cards to make billions of dollars in unnecessary purchases every year. By mid-summer, VA announced to Congress that it would be short of the funds it needed to finish the fiscal year. VA launched a transparency initiative in June 2014 that included posting patient waiting times on its website. Within months, whistleblowers alleged that VA health-care brass in Los Angeles were fudging those numbers as well. Meanwhile, the agency has never satisfactorily explained why one of its Phoenix administrators used taxpayer money to purchase the book “How to Lie With Statistics” for his staff.

As Mitchell puts it, “VA doesn’t tend to learn from its past mistakes. They seem to condone them by not correcting them – and the mistakes repeat themselves.”

But there isn’t just a “government fix,” says Linda Bilmes, Harvard economist and VA expert. “We shouldn’t expect a big government bureaucracy to solve the fundamental problem, which is our lack of true national commitment to veterans, not just in terms of money but in terms of caring what hap-

pened in Iraq and Afghanistan. This problem stems from the lack of shared sacrifice that was caused by a war in which only a tiny fraction of the population was directly involved in the fighting, and the rest of the population was not even asked to pay for it – we simply borrowed the money and added trillions of dollars to the national debt.”

A NATIONAL STRATEGY The VA budget has nearly tripled in the past decade while DoD has quadrupled its medical budget in that same time frame, Bilmes says.

However, more resources will be needed as the nation’s obligation to care for veterans continues to grow. Demand for World War I veterans’ care didn’t peak until 1969, and it was 1986 before it topped out for World War II veterans, Bilmes says. Care for Korean War and Vietnam War veterans hasn’t reached its anticipated highest levels yet.

In the face of these challenges and the surge in post-9/11 veterans seeking care, VA clings to an outdated disability claims evaluation system. Veterans must have separate specialist verification of every medical issue they are claiming. And they have to return for another evaluation every time each condition gets worse – as most chronic health issues invariably do, Bilmes says. This alone has overwhelmed both the health-care branch and benefits area of the department.

40 percent of Los Angeles County veterans surveyed in 2014 said they left the military without having found permanent housing.

79.5 percent of Los Angeles County veterans surveyed in 2014 said they had no job when they left the military.

79.4 percent said they were not receiving any assistance in finding jobs.

“The State of the American Veteran: The Los Angeles County Veterans Study,”
USC School of Social Work



Sept. 11, 2012

Embassy attack in Benghazi

The U.S. diplomatic compound in Benghazi, Libya, is attacked by a group of al-Qaida militants. They kill U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens, Foreign Service Information Officer Sean Smith, and CIA contractors Glen Doherty and Tyrone Woods. Ten others are injured in the attacks. Initial reports claim the attack was spontaneous and blame the film “Innocence of Muslims” by Egyptian-American Mark Basseley Youssef. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton testifies before the Senate and House Foreign Affairs committees in a controversial investigation that concludes the attack was likely preventable, based on known security shortfalls and prior warnings.

This Button Saves Lives!

Get Peace of Mind and Independence with Medical Alert Monitoring!

FREE GIFTS 2

Round-the-clock monitoring with **Medical Alert** system not only provides you with piece of mind, it also assures you and your loved ones that you'll never be alone. With the **Medical Alert** system, a simple button device can be worn anywhere—even in the shower. If emergency help is needed (medical, fire or police), push the button and a certified operator responds immediately.

- No Long-Term Contracts
- No Activation Fee
- Easy to Set Up & Use
- FREE Equipment
- Sales and Monitoring Agents Based in the USA
- UL Listed Monitoring Station

Includes Everything You Need

- Base Unit
- Waterproof Pendant or Wristband



Call Now Toll-Free

1-800-800-9112

www.MedicalAlert.com

MedicalAlert
Help at the Push of a Button



VETERANS
Receive a
FREE 2nd Button
and Locking Keybox!
Order Now!



NO HOME PHONE, NO PROBLEM!

Ask About Our Mobile Solution!

☒ **To Request a FREE Color Brochure.**

Call for More Information: **1-800-800-9112**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____ ALCP1015

Mail to: Medical Alert, 53 West Baltimore Pike, Media, PA 19063

She adds that instead of burying VA physicians in piecemeal disability evaluations, servicemembers should receive a comprehensive medical exam upon leaving the military that is identical to their enlistment physical – and automatically receive approval for obvious service-connected problems. Follow-up audits on a certain percentage of claims would serve as a check on fraud.

Mitchell, who is now the specialty medical care coordinator and a VA quality scholar with the agency's regional office in Gilbert, Ariz., advocates three key changes:

- Discipline VA officials who retaliate against whistleblowers. “Until someone draws a line in the sand ... there will continue to be patient problems and VA will continue to lose personnel.”
- Reduce the number of complex patients assigned to each VA physician, and immediately provide standardized triage training for emergency room nurses and mental health nurses so they are better equipped to deal with high patient demand.
- Develop and execute a comprehensive approach to caring for today's veterans.

As Bilmes put it in a Veterans Day guest editorial for WBUR in Boston in 2014, “The United States has no serious strategy for tackling the full range of challenges that veterans and their families are facing. Rather than simply hoping things work out and then throwing money at problems after they surface, we need to think through, in detail, how to support America's veterans, including financing these endeavors on a sustainable basis.”

It's not simply that injuries are more complicated or that battlefield medicine dramatically improved survival rates in the post-9/11 era. It's more than our obligation to meet the needs of female veterans. It's the entire contract America has made in return for the sacrifices of an all-volunteer force that has been poorly fulfilled if not breached, Bilmes argues.

“Part of that contract with those who serve today is that if you have this set of injuries, these are the compensatory benefits you will be entitled to. We, the taxpayers, agreed to this bargain.” 🍀

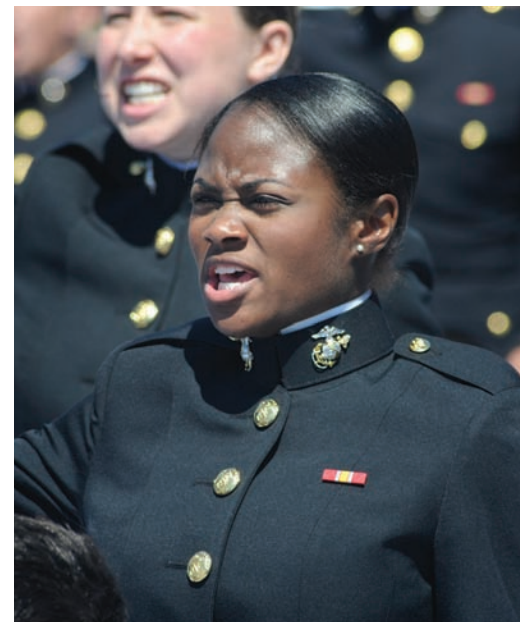
Ken Olsen is a frequent contributor to The American Legion Magazine.



“To know us is to know that we come from all across America and have had very different experiences. We have served in all branches of the military (37 percent of us have served in the Army, 23 percent in the Navy, 23 percent in the Air Force, 14 percent in the Marines and 3 percent in the Coast Guard) and represent the face of America (77 percent of us are white, 15 percent are African American, 12 percent are Hispanic, and 3 percent are Asian American). What may surprise many people is that 17 percent of us are women, a historically large number, and many of whom saw combat in Iraq or Afghanistan.”

From “My America: Navigating the Post-9/11 Veteran Landscape, Nov. 11, 2014,” The Bush Institute

A 2011 American Legion survey of more than 3,000 women veterans finds that nearly **25 percent** rate the convenience or location of VA women's health-care services as poor. Only **42 percent** of respondents rate the screening process for military sexual trauma as satisfactory.



Attention Veterans

Save Now On A Walk-In Bath Or Easy Access Shower

Bathe Safely and Worry-Free with a Premier Care in Bathing Walk-In Bath.

Independence and security are only a phone call away. If you or a loved one struggle taking a bath, talk to us at Premier Care in Bathing about our extensive range of Walk-In Baths.

- Enjoy a relaxing bath again, without the fear of slipping or falling
- The walk-in door feature allows easy access and exiting
- **Hydrovescent** air jets soothe away your aches and pains
- Our fully licensed installers can do most any install, and in most cases in just one to two days
- Easy installation with white glove treatment

Premier Care
in Bathing

*Subject to approved credit. Example: Based on 9.9% APR, a down payment equal to 1/3 of contract amount, and a monthly payment of \$150 for 120 months. Offer subject to change without notice.

 CUT OFF BELOW AND MAIL BACK TODAY!

☒ **Yes!** Please send me a **FREE COLOR BROCHURE** about Premier Care Walk-In Baths.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Email _____

Telephone () _____

By submitting this request, I agree that Premier Care in Bathing may contact me by telephone using automated technology at the telephone number provided. I consent to the privacy policy and understand this consent is not a condition of purchase.

Send To Premier Care in Bathing, 2330 South Nova Rd., South Daytona, Florida 32119

As Seen
On TV!

PAYMENTS
AS LOW AS
\$150
PER MONTH*



MADE IN THE
USA

LIMITED
LIFETIME
Warranty

CALL NOW • TOLL FREE

1-800-332-9168

www.MoreTubInfo.com

21230



Arthritis Foundation
**Ease of
Use™**

21230

ALL-AMERICAN

*Meet Dale Barnett of Georgia,
West Point grad and the Legion's
new national commander.*

BY MATT GRILLS

*Dale Barnett is a proud member
of American Legion Post 105
in Fayetteville, Ga. Photo by Lucas Carter*

You don't have to tell Dale Barnett he's been fortunate. He knows it.

He grew up in a Mayberry-like small town where he delivered newspapers, mowed lawns and lettered in four sports. He attended the U.S. Military Academy, married his high school sweetheart and served 22 years as an Army officer, including in Operation Desert Storm. After retiring, he fulfilled his longtime dream of being a teacher and a coach.

"I've had the best of both worlds," says Barnett, who belongs to American Legion Post 105 in Fayetteville, Ga. "I wouldn't trade my life for anything."

Now he's ready for "the ultimate challenge," which is representing the Legion on Capitol Hill, across the country and around the world.

Elected at the 97th National Convention in Baltimore in September, Barnett is the Legion's fourth national commander from Georgia and the department's first in 25 years.

"We're very proud of Dale," says Charlie Knox, longtime adjutant of Georgia. "He has integrity and leadership, and his ability to motivate people is unbelievable. He's brought great credit to our department, and we look forward to him being a great national commander."

HOOSIER ROOTS About a half-hour south of Indianapolis, in a small neighborhood off U.S. 31, is a street named Barnett Court. In the 1960s, Barnett's father Glenn – a World War II Navy veteran and member of the town board – bought the property and developed it. Their old family home is still there, along with the slab of concrete where Barnett spent thousands of hours playing basketball with friends.

"Watch an episode of 'Andy Griffith' and that was Whiteland, Indiana, for me growing up," he says. "It was a tight-knit community. Everyone knew each other."

His family's history in the area goes back generations – and includes one of America's strangest burial plots. Called "the grave in the middle of the road," it belongs to Nancy Kerlin, wife of William Barnett, great-great-great-grandson of Pocahontas and John Rolfe. She died in 1831 and was buried on a hill overlooking a creek. Later, the county relocated the cemetery to build a road and moved every grave but Nancy's, which was guarded by her shotgun-wielding grandson. So the road divides around the grave and its historical marker.

"It's a couple of miles from my grandparents' house," Barnett says. "I used to go sledding near there when I was a kid."

Even as a young man, Barnett had an enviable résumé: student body president, captain of the track and basketball teams, Boy Scout, active in his Methodist church's youth group.

He was popular, too. "He had girls chasing him all the time," says Barnett's wife, Donna. "They liked him because he treated them with respect. If he wasn't interested in a girl, he wouldn't do anything to hurt her feelings. He was friends with everybody, just like he is now."

He and Donna ended up together after a date to Brown County State Park. During a dance at his senior prom, she realized Barnett was the one.

"We're still the best of friends," he says. "We grew up a mile apart, so there's a commonality, a lot of similar values ingrained in us. We know each other and understand each other."

On top of that, he appreciates the sacrifices Donna has made in their 40 years of marriage – multiple moves, his deployments, coaching sports teams and heavy Legion involvement.

Their first separation was the longest: Barnett's four years at West Point. When a slot opened at the academy his senior year of high school, he applied and eventually got it. Donna wrote to him every day, sometimes several times a day, until they married following his graduation in 1974.

"I caught a lot of grief, because I got more letters than anybody else there," he says, laughing.

FROM WEST POINT TO EAST POINT Barnett's backup plan was to attend Ball State University and earn a teaching degree. But seeds of interest in the U.S. Military Academy had already been planted: once during a 1965 trip to the New York World's Fair, when his father and uncle arranged a day visit to West Point, and again in 1969 when he attended American Legion Boys State and heard presentations on all the service academies.

He says his first two years as a cadet were "like drinking water out of a fire hose." Though he had been a good student in high school, Barnett fought to keep up academically. "I wasn't the last in my class, but I sure knew him, because we were in a lot of classes together."

At the time, he had no thought of a military career, but that's what happened. "You have a five-year commitment after the academy," he says. "I said, 'I'll give it a chance, and unless someone gives me a good reason to get out, I'll continue.'"

An infantry officer, Barnett enjoyed various duty assignments in the United States and overseas, including Fort Benning, Ga., Fort Leavenworth, Kan., San Antonio, Germany and Panama. During



Barnett shares a hug with Kathalyn, 12, and Joseph, 11. His wife, Donna, says he's a caring and involved father: "He's very patient, very forgiving, very loving. He has a way of talking to you that doesn't ever put you down." Photo by Lucas Carter

the Gulf War, he served as a battalion executive officer in Saudi Arabia and Iraq. In a photo from Thanksgiving 1990, President George H.W. Bush shakes Barnett's hand as Army Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf looks on.

"I look back with fond memories on my military experience," he says. "It was an opportunity to go places I probably would never have been able to go. And I took great pride in wearing that uniform and serving our country."

In 1996, Barnett retired as a lieutenant colonel at Fort McPherson, Ga., having already laid the groundwork for a second career – this one in the classroom. While working as an Army inspector general in Panama, he'd taken the national teacher exam and started looking at states that offered a smooth transition from the military to teaching.

"When people ask why I settled in Georgia, I kind of joke, 'My uncle kept sending me there, and I worked for him. Uncle Sam!'" he says. Truth is, Barnett found the Atlanta area to be a great fit for his next act. (Plus, Donna liked the climate.)

Barnett left the Army on Aug. 1 and took classes 10 hours a day for five weeks. By September, he was teaching on a provisional certificate for Fulton County Schools, headquartered in East Point, Ga. With the support of the system's director of

personnel, a Vietnam War veteran, he took a job at Tri-Cities High School teaching U.S. history, geography and political science.

The environment was urban, and many of Barnett's students didn't have the stability he'd known in his youth. "They had a lot going on," he says. "I think they enjoyed an opportunity to have some structure. In some respects, school was comforting to them after being in very chaotic situations in their home lives."

Over the next 15 years, Barnett taught at three high schools and coached baseball, basketball and cross-country. He helped student athletes become eligible for Division I scholarships and brought American Legion programs into the classroom, such as Boys State and the National Oratorical Contest. In 2006, he was named Creekside High School's Teacher of the Year.

He retired from education in 2011, but misses it at times. "Every day was different," he says. "You always had a sense that you were contributing to helping others when you were teaching. You felt like you earned your pay each and every day."

POST PRIDE This phase of the Barnetts' life might be the busiest. Two daughters, Michelle and Andrea, are grown and have their own families.

A BLESSING...for those who RIDE HARD and LIVE FREE

May the sun rise in front of me,
May the rain fall behind me,
And the wind follow beside me,
May the angels guard my travels,
For they know the road ahead of me.

Keep me safe through
Swirling turns and rolling hills,
Let the eagle guide me
To the mountaintops.

Let the moonlight guide me
Through the night.
Let the air of spring
Breathe life into my soul,
To journey to another adventure
Out on the open road.

Anyone with a passion for motorcycles will tell you that no matter what the road throws at you, they're always ready for the next adventure. Now, we've created a new jewelry exclusive for those with the ride hard, live free spirit—the "Biker's Blessing" Dogtag Pendant. Let it be your co-pilot through the curves and bumps ahead.

A MAGNIFICENT ACHIEVEMENT IN CRAFTSMANSHIP AND DESIGN

Crafted of tough-as-a-biker stainless steel, our custom designed dogtag-style pendant features a sculpted bike and cross against a hand-enameled jet black background on the front. Etched on the back is the biker's motto "RIDE HARD LIVE FREE" with a cross, while etched around the sides are words from the powerful "Biker's Blessing" poem. Raised corner "rivets" and a bail in the shape of a motorcycle tire which holds a 24" stainless steel "bike chain" complete the look. Each pendant comes in a velvet jewelry pouch and gift box, along with a specially prepared "Biker's Blessing" card.

AN EXCEPTIONAL VALUE... YOUR SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

A remarkable value at \$99*, you can pay for your pendant in 4 easy installments of \$24.75 each. To reserve yours, complete with a Certificate of Authenticity and our 120-day guarantee, send no money now; just mail the Reservation today!

Complete with a velvet jewelry pouch, gift box, and specially prepared "Biker's Blessing" card (a portion shown above)



Crafted in
biker-tough
stainless steel



**Boldly sculpted
design with:**

- 24" "bike" chain
- Tire-shaped bail
- Sculpted chopper and cross



Reverse side



BIKER'S BLESSING DOGTAG PENDANT

A CUSTOM CRAFTED EXCLUSIVE ONLY FROM THE BRADFORD EXCHANGE

Words from the
"Biker's Blessing" are
etched around the sides



RESERVATION APPLICATION SEND NO MONEY NOW

THE
BRADFORD EXCHANGE
JEWELRY

9345 Milwaukee Avenue · Niles, IL 60714-1393

YES. Please reserve the "Biker's Blessing" Dogtag Pendant for me as described in this announcement.

LIMITED-TIME OFFER

Signature _____

Mrs. Mr. Ms. _____

Name (Please Print Clearly)

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

E-Mail (Optional) _____

*Plus \$9.98 shipping and service. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery of your jewelry after we receive your initial deposit. Sales subject to product availability and order acceptance.

01-16036-001-E94901

www.bradfordexchange.com/16036

They have three children still at home. Desiree, 16, is an artist and honors French student. Kathalyn, 12, is active in 4-H and drama. Joseph, 11, is a Webelos Scout and chess player.

"We keep the asphalt pretty hot between here and the school," Barnett says.

He logs plenty of miles for The American Legion, too. This year marks his 20th as a member, and he's served in at least that many positions: post adjutant, post commander, district commander, district Boys State and Oratorical chairman, department treasurer, department commander. Nationally, he's chaired the Economic Commission and the Membership & Post Activities Committee.

No matter how far he travels, though, Barnett is proud to hang his cap at Post 105, a log cabin built by the Works Progress Administration in 1936. Members gather at monthly coffee calls and meetings, and rent the building to a church and local groups.

"Go to my post and you could be at a baseball card show or rummage sale," he says. "What we're doing works well for our members, allowing us to focus on our programs and still be a visible part of the community."

Barnett also has close ties with Post 258 in Jonesboro, his district's largest post. "He belongs to our SAL squadron, but as far as we're concerned he's a regular member," says Rick Corbell, junior vice commander. "He's an articulate man, a good man who does what he says he's going to do. I'm proud of his record."

Increasing membership by spreading the word about what the Legion does has always been Barnett's vision. It's worked in his post and in his department, and is a key part of his plans as national commander. He's encouraging every department to organize a public "awareness walk for veterans," or similar event. Proceeds will benefit the National Emergency Fund and, just as important, boost the profile of the American Legion Family nationwide.

"We've got to get out of our post homes and out into the community," Barnett says. "We have to make them aware of all the people we help with our programs, whether that's at the VA hospital, youth development, or legislation that affects veterans and their families or our national defense. If we do that, people will want to join. We need to highlight the positives of this organization, and there are so many." 🌿

Matt Grills is managing editor of The American Legion Magazine.



TOP TEN THINGS YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT DALE BARNETT

10 While he was deployed to the Persian Gulf, his daughters adopted a dog they named Vanguard, for Barnett's battalion. They pushed the dog in a stroller, and when their dad returned home, Vanguard wouldn't go for walks. "He kept coming back to me. I'm walking around carrying the dog."

9 His all-time favorite movie is "Hoosiers," which he's seen a hundred times or more. "When I watch it, I think about our old high school gym in Whiteland and how exciting it was to play Indiana high school basketball as a kid."

8 Like most busy families, the Barnetts have a kitchen table covered with bookbags, homework and other papers. Except for one spot. "Dale's got to have a little square that's his – all clean, nothing around it," his wife, Donna, says.

7 There's not a lot he doesn't enjoy eating, but he's crazy about strawberry pie.

6 "I'm a list-maker. I try to accomplish at least 10 things a day. I believe in staying busy."

5 Shortly before the Legion's national convention in 2011, he took his youngest children roller-skating – and immediately fell and tore an adductor muscle. "I told my daughter that within an hour we'd get a call saying he'd hurt himself," Donna recalls. "When the phone rang, she said, 'You think that's Dad?' I said, 'You can count on it. That man can't skate.'"

4 A former cross-country and track star, he's still in good shape. He does more walking than running nowadays – three miles a day, four or five days a week.

3 He's a patient man, but if you want to turn him off, be that guy in the meeting who constantly has a gripe. "I have found that the people who complain the least are the ones doing the most, and the ones who complain the most are doing the least."

2 Since he moved to Georgia 20 years ago, the phrase "you all" has become fixed in his vocabulary.

1 A perfect day with his family is their annual trip to Helen, Ga., where they stop at a German bakery, see the local waterfalls, eat lunch at Cafe International and tube down the Chattahoochee River.

NEW

"My friends all hate their cell phones... I love mine!" Here's why.

No Contract

FREE Car Charger

Get 400 monthly minutes for the price of 200 with WE♥TALK.

Say good-bye to everything you hate about cell phones. Say hello to Jitterbug.

"Cell phones have gotten so small, I can barely dial mine." Not Jitterbug®, it features a larger keypad for easier dialing. It even has an oversized display so you can actually see it.

"I had to get my son to program it." Your Jitterbug set-up process is simple. We'll even pre-program it with your favorite numbers.

"I tried my sister's cell phone... I couldn't hear it." Jitterbug is designed with an improved speaker. There's an adjustable volume control, and Jitterbug is hearing-aid compatible.

"I don't need stock quotes, Internet sites or games on my phone, I just want to talk with my family and friends." Life is complicated enough... Jitterbug is simple.

"What if I don't remember a number?" Friendly, helpful Jitterbug operators are available 24 hours a day and will even greet you by name when you call.

"I'd like a cell phone to use in an emergency, but I don't want a high monthly bill." Jitterbug has a plan to fit your needs... and your budget.



Available in Blue and Red.

Monthly Plan	\$14.99	\$19.99
Monthly Minutes	50	was 200 NOW 400
Operator Assistance	24/7	24/7
911 Access	FREE	FREE
Long Distance Calls	No add'l charge	No add'l charge
Voice Dial	FREE	FREE
Nationwide Coverage	YES	YES
Friendly Return Policy¹	30 days	30 days

More minute plans available. Ask your Jitterbug expert for details.

"My cell phone company wants to lock me in on a two-year contract!" Not Jitterbug, there's no contract to sign and no penalty if you discontinue your service.

"I'll be paying for minutes I'll never use!" Not with Jitterbug, unused minutes carry over to the next month, there's no roaming fee and no additional charge for long distance.

"My phone's battery only lasts a couple of days." The Jitterbug's battery lasts for up to 25 days on standby.

Enough talk. Isn't it time you found out more about the cell phone that's changing all the rules? Call now, Jitterbug product experts are standing by.

Order now and receive a

FREE Car Charger for your Jitterbug – a \$24.99 value. Call now!

jitterbug

firstSTREET
for Boomers and Beyond®
1998 Ruffin Mill Road
Colonial Heights, VA 23834



NEW Jitterbug5 Cell Phone

Call toll free today to get your own Jitterbug5.

Please mention promotional code 100515.

1-877-556-8361

www.jitterbugdirect.com

We proudly accept the following credit cards.



IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: WE♥TALK offer valid on 400 minute plan and applies to new GreatCall customers only. Offer valid until plan is changed or cancelled. Jitterbug is owned by GreatCall, Inc. Your invoices will come from GreatCall. All rate plans and services require the purchase of a Jitterbug phone and a one-time set up fee of \$35. Coverage and service is not available everywhere. Other charges and restrictions may apply. Screen images simulated. There are no additional fees to call Jitterbug's 24-hour U.S. Based Customer Service. However, for calls to an Operator in which a service is completed, minutes will be deducted from your monthly balance equal to the length of the call and any call connected by the Operator, plus an additional 5 minutes. Monthly minutes carry over and are available for 60 days. If you exceed the minute balance on your account, you will be billed at 35¢ for each minute used over the balance. Monthly rate plans do not include government taxes or assessment surcharges. Prices and fees subject to change. We will refund the full price of the GreatCall phone and the activation fee (or set-up fee) if it is returned within 30 days of purchase in like-new condition. We will also refund your first monthly service charge if you have less than 30 minutes of usage. If you have more than 30 minutes of usage, a per minute charge of 35 cents will be deducted from your refund for each minute over 30 minutes. You will be charged a \$10 restocking fee. The shipping charges are not refundable. Jitterbug and GreatCall are registered trademarks of GreatCall, Inc. Samsung is a registered trademark of Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. ©2015 Samsung Telecommunications America, LLC. ©2015 GreatCall, Inc. ©2015 firstSTREET for Boomers and Beyond, Inc.



OUTNUMBERED

Life has many price tags, but financial planning can help you achieve your goals.

BY J.J. MONTANARO



Media Bakery

TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS.

I was out shopping with my wife and daughter last week, and a certain brand of watch caught my eye. Or its price tag did.

I'm sporting a \$30 digital watch, so this one's five-figure sticker price was hard for me to fathom. Then again, I'm sure there's stuff I spend money on that would have other people shaking their heads. No matter how widely different our priorities, all financial goals share one trait: they come with a price tag.

I'm not sure why the \$10K tag on the watch was such a shock; I know people can have expensive tastes. Whenever I meet a new client, our initial conversation always includes identifying goals, and over the years I've heard some crazy ones: exotic trips, exotic animals and, of course, exotic vehicles.

I guess that watch just reminded me that there are some pretty robust costs associated with the goals we aim to accomplish. The watch also highlighted the serious financial planning and execution required to achieve those goals.

Let's take a look at a few goals that might be on your list. Their accompanying price tags might open your eyes to the advantage of being proactive.

■ **The big wedding: \$31,213.** That's the average price of a marriage ceremony and reception, according to **theknot.com**. Now I know why my uncle – who had four daughters – always looked a little frazzled.

Game plan: Start early and set up a fund earmarked for the celebration. Let your savings and financial capacity dictate what's spent. Don't let the excitement cause a financial catastrophe.

■ **Retirement: \$1,250,000.** This is the size of a nest egg needed to support \$50,000 in inflation-adjusted income for 30 years. Your number may be a lot bigger depending on where you're going. Do you know what you are shooting for? Most people don't. Use some of the handy tools and calculators available at **usaa.com** or enlist a planner to help you realize your goals. **Game plan:** Consider putting money into your retirement plan at work if you have one, and always get 100 percent of matching contributions. Fund an IRA, bump up what you're saving and knock down debt at every opportunity.

■ **Raising a child: \$245,340.** I don't even know where to start with this one. This is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's estimate of what it costs to raise a child born in 2013. You may be thinking that's way overstated, but adding children to the family has big financial implications. **Game plan:** Plan for how a baby will affect both income and expenses.

■ **Sending a child to college: \$80,000.** The previous USDA figure did not include this number; as we're in

the midst of a huge student-loan crisis, that's a big deal. Add up the College Board's estimate of the in-state cost of tuition, fees, and room and board at a four-year public university and you end up with a pretty hefty number. Start planning to make this manageable, which means minimizing student "aid" that comes in the form of a loan. **Game plan:** Consider setting up and contributing to a 529 plan for your children or grandchildren, leverage cool tools like Upromise to boost savings, and make finances a key factor in how your family gets educated.

■ **The roof over your head: \$320,744.** In June, the Mortgage Bankers Association reported this as the average loan amount to buy a new home. For most of us, a mortgage is the biggest debt we'll ever have. When it comes to home buying, the key is to make it fit into your budget. Don't let your home become your financial prison. **Game plan:** Build a "home fund" for your down payment, closing costs and move-in expenses, and maintain an emergency fund for maintenance and breakdowns. Protect yourself with adequate homeowners and life insurance.

■ **Murphy's Law: \$1,000.** "Anything that can go wrong will go wrong." It's a common phrase for a reason. Things break. Accidents happen. This summer, with a vacation scheduled the next day, our water heater started leaking – ouch. **Game plan:** Set up an emergency fund and contribute to it regularly.

■ **The fun stuff: \$3,000.** What's on your calendar? Holidays, birthdays, trips and big purchases are all examples of scheduled goals that come with known price tags. We save all year for things like this in my house, which helps take some of the financial sting out of our vacations and celebrations. **Game plan:** Start a savings account specifically for your goals and put aside a little bit each paycheck.

These are just the everyday goals; I haven't even touched on some of those exotic things you dream about. Make a plan and take action today to make those dreams a reality – a reality that's not tethered to a boatload of debt. 🌿

J.J. Montanaro is a certified financial planner with USAA Financial Planning Services, one of the USAA family of companies. USAA is The American Legion's preferred provider of financial services.

HAVE QUESTIONS? CALL USAA

For each new USAA member who purchases any product, the company contributes funds to American Legion programs. Join online at **www.usaa.com/legion** or call toll-free **1-877-699-2654**.



World War II Army veteran Maurice Sperandieu and his daughter, Lee, speak with The American Legion Magazine at the U.S. Army Garrison in Brussels, Belgium. Photo by Jeff Stoffer

HONOR & REMEMBRANCE

Belgian teen soldier, American veteran

The first thing 89-year-old Maurice Sperandieu will tell you is the meaning of his name. “Hope in God,” he softly says, seated beside his daughter, Lee, at an American Legion steak dinner in Brussels, Belgium.

Sperandieu does not need to explain the three words. They are undoubtedly a mantra he repeated often in one of several languages he spoke in 1944 when he volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army. Following Belgium’s liberation in September of that year, he went on to fight in the Battle of the Bulge and later translated terms of surrender to German soldiers, as well as long-awaited words of rescue to Holocaust survivors as he and his unit moved eastward in the final half-year of World War II.

When Sperandieu turned 18 in June 1944, his country had been under Nazi occupation for more than four years. The Allies had just stormed the beaches of Normandy and were fighting their way across Europe. By September, they had reached Belgium and Luxembourg, where they established the final major combat line of Germany’s defense against the inevitable. There, in the winter of 1944 and 1945, the Battle of the Bulge would account for more than 89,000 U.S. casualties, including nearly 20,000 killed in action.

As the Allies were battling to harden the line, the teenage Sperandieu saw a U.S. GI about his age shot and killed by a German sniper. “I looked at him and thought, ‘That could be me,’” Sperandieu says. “I thought about what this young guy had done for me.”

To get into the U.S. Army as a Belgian volunteer, he needed parental consent. His father, a veteran who had fought alongside Americans in World War I, granted it.

“I volunteered because my dad did, for 20 years,” says Sperandieu, peering through glasses that fail to give him much vision anymore. “It was normal that I would follow his example. It was normal, but it was frightening at the same time. You were risking your life every day.”

By the time he was trained and serving in the U.S. Army’s 4th Infantry Division, the thunder of bombs and crackle of gunfire were familiar white noise to Sperandieu, who knew that death could strike anyone, combatant or not, at any moment. “My dad was proud. I was excited. But he said to me it was possible I wouldn’t come back.” That was a risk they were willing to accept.

As a boy surrounded by war, Sperandieu had taken refuge in schoolwork, confident that liberation was imminent. He excelled in language studies, skills the Army later put to use. He was attached to an MP unit that consisted of a first lieutenant, a sergeant, a driver and him. As the Allies pushed the Germans back, Sperandieu and his team could be found in their jeep near the front, translating to the Germans what was coming and what they needed to do about it.

After the Battle of the Bulge, German resistance began to soften. As the Allies continued to push the line toward Berlin, Sperandieu personally saw Gen. George S. Patton on two occasions as they moved forward, looking for billets. “The Germans were starting to surrender. Even the Germans had had enough of the fighting. Sometimes we didn’t know if a place had already been taken by the American troops.”

Sperandieu’s advance team did encounter enemy fire, once forcing the teenage translator to leap out of their moving jeep while under attack from the air. “A few (German) planes were still active. They tried to kill us. Fortunately, they were not that accurate.”

In April 1945, Sperandieu and the first lieutenant were scouting a German village when they entered a big building. They went in and began opening doors, one by one. “They were nice rooms. Silent. I opened one last door, and there were at least 15 high-ranking Nazi staff officers. I was raising my tommy gun. They looked at us. We looked at them. Nobody said a word. After a few seconds, my lieutenant said, ‘Let’s go.’ I think that was a good decision.”

The outnumbered U.S. soldiers could easily have been gunned down by the enemy officers. However, says Sperandieu, "They were not speaking about attacking. They were speaking about surrendering."

When his unit reached the Buchenwald concentration camp in western Germany, Sperandieu saw a scene that would be seared into his memory forever. "The prisoners were all sick and dying," he recalls. "Lying on the ground, barely able to speak. Horrible ... horrible."

Today, he believes the tuberculosis he contracted after he got out of the Army in 1946 was connected to the liberation of Buchenwald, a place he has revisited over the years if only to provide firsthand testimony of one of history's darkest chapters. "The Germans don't want the whole story told, but I was there."

Shortly after the war, Sperandieu joined The American Legion. He is a Paid Up for Life member of Belgium's Flanders Field Post BE02. "For 32 years I organized remembrance walks for the Battle of the Bulge," he explains. His winter walks – retracing the steps of the Allies in that fateful winter – continue to this day and are organized by the City of Bastogne.

Sperandieu tried to re-enlist in the Army to fight in the Korean War. "They wouldn't take me," he says. "My eyes were not that good."

He and his wife, Elly, later adopted two South Korean girls who had been orphaned after the conflict. Lee and Lin grew up in Belgium and live there today. Lee is an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary in the Department of France and has created a Facebook page on behalf of her father. She also helps him get around and explains what he cannot see. "I am his eyes," she says.

Sperandieu says the war "has always been a part of my life, and it will be until the end." On that hope, the World War II veteran from Belgium can be even more certain than he was in 1944, when the words that make up the meaning of his name proved both therapeutic and prophetic, as he and his fellow soldiers helped change the course of human history.

– Jeff Stoffer



Did your job give you Lung Cancer?

If you suffer from **Mesothelioma** or **Lung Cancer**, and were exposed to Asbestos on the job – even decades ago – you may be entitled to substantial compensation (*even if you've been a smoker!*). It costs you nothing to find out. And, until you win, it costs you nothing up front if we take on your case.

Weitz & Luxenberg is acknowledged as a national leader among law firms experienced in litigating Asbestos-related claims. We have already won over \$17 Billion in verdicts and settlements for working people just like you. For a free consultation please call us today at **1-888-411-LAWS** or visit us at www.LungCancerTrusts.com

WEITZ & LUXENBERG P.C.
L A W O F F I C E S

We're with you – every step of the way!

888-411-LAWS

WWW.LUNGANCERTRUSTS.COM

700 BROADWAY | NEW YORK, NY 10003

BRANCH OFFICES IN
CALIFORNIA & NEW JERSEY



ATTORNEY ADVERTISING. Prior results do not guarantee a future outcome. We may associate with local firms in states wherein we do not maintain an office. If no recovery, no fees or costs are charged, unless prohibited by State Law or Rule. Not licensed to practice law in Louisiana. Gary Klein, Esq.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Brutal regime

There has been a surge of defections among the North Korean diplomatic corps posted overseas, UPI reports. The increase in defections is largely a function of the bloody purges underway in the north. According to the South Korean government, Pyongyang executed three senior government officials in 2012, 30 in 2013, 31 in 2014, and 15 as of July 2015. But those official tallies could be low. One recent defector, speaking anonymously to protect his identity, told CNN that “hundreds of the elite have been executed” by Kim Jong-Un. The BBC reports that 25,000 people have fled the north in the past 20 years.

HONOR & REMEMBRANCE

NYC Veterans Day parade invites Legion Family members

Every year, New York City hosts the nation's largest Veterans Day parade, and local American Legion posts want as many Legion Family members – Legion, Auxiliary and Sons – as possible to participate, wherever they're from.

This year, America's Parade will start at approximately 11:15 a.m. Nov. 11, at Fifth Avenue and 26th Street. It will proceed up Fifth Avenue to 52nd Street. The total distance is 1.3 miles. For more information, email parade@americanlegion.com.

 www.americanlegion.com/_/Parade.html



Photo by Amy C. Elliott



Veterans and dignitaries participate in a groundbreaking ceremony for the Korean War memorial at the Presidio on July 11. Photo courtesy Tom Graves/TwiceHeroes.com

HONOR & REMEMBRANCE

San Francisco breaks ground for Korean War memorial

Quentin Kopp didn't serve in theater during the Korean War, but the memory of the conflict still looms large in his memory.

That's why the Air Force veteran and San Francisco political luminary – retired Superior Court judge, former California state senator and more – eagerly accepted an offer to join the board of the Korean War Memorial Foundation, of which he is now president. In 2010, the foundation was established for the purpose of building a memorial in San Francisco, which served as the embarkation point for many U.S. servicemembers headed overseas to fight.

“The Golden Gate Bridge is what they saw” leaving and returning, says Kopp, a 66-year member of The American Legion.

The memorial will be built in the Presidio, a national park and former Army base with more than 200 years of military history spanning three different countries. The location is just outside the Presidio National Cemetery, facing the ocean – and Korea.

“The Presidio has been a marvelous partner,” Kopp says. “This was the best assignment an officer can know.”

On July 11, a large crowd attended the memorial's groundbreaking, including 550 Korean War veterans, family members, dignitaries and donors. Kopp says the foundation has nearly reached the \$3.5 million in private donations required by the Presidio Trust. Among the contributors are the Republic of Korea (\$1 million), FedEx (\$50,000) and Samsung (\$150,000). More than 500 Legionnaires have donated to the memorial, as well as many posts, including Kopp's own: Post 238 in Pacifica, Calif.

Family foundations with business roots in Korea have also contributed. Also, a service connection between Kopp and the father of an “O'Reilly Factor” producer led to a live shout-out on the Fox News show in March, which Kopp estimates brought in about \$7,000.

After construction, future donations will go toward specific features of the memorial, such as a smartphone-friendly, round-the-clock kiosk and educational outreach program. Such endeavors are “a purpose of the memorial,” Kopp says. “They call it the forgotten war for a reason.”

In San Francisco, that won't be true much longer.

– Laura Edwards

Find out more about the Korean War Memorial:  www.kwmf.org

HARBOR FREIGHT

QUALITY TOOLS AT RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES

How Does Harbor Freight Sell GREAT QUALITY Tools at the LOWEST Prices?

We have invested millions of dollars in our own state-of-the-art quality test labs and millions more in our factories, so our tools will go toe-to-toe with the top professional brands. And we can sell them for a fraction of the price because we cut out the middle man and pass the savings on to you. It's just that simple! Come visit one of our 600 Stores Nationwide.

WOW SUPER COUPON

20% OFF

ANY SINGLE ITEM

LIMIT 1 - Save 20% on any one item purchased at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. *Cannot be used with other discount, coupon, gift cards, Inside Track Club membership, extended service plans or on any of the following: compressors, generators, tool storage or carts, welders, floor jacks, Towable Ride-On Trencher, Saw Mill (Item 61712/62366/6138), Predator Gas Power Items, open box items, in-store event or parking lot sale items. Not valid on prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase date with original receipt. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.



83760990

WOW SUPER COUPON

FREE

WITH ANY PURCHASE
CENTECH.
7 FUNCTION
DIGITAL
MULTIMETER

LOT 98099 shown
98025/69096

\$1499

VALUE

LIMIT 1 - Cannot be used with other discount, coupon or prior purchase. Coupon good at our stores, HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Offer good while supplies last. Shipping & Handling charges may apply if not picked up in-store. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one FREE GIFT coupon per customer per day.



83759631

WOW SUPER COUPON

CENTRAL PNEUMATIC
3 GALLON, 100 PSI
OILLESS PANCAKE
AIR COMPRESSOR

LOT 95275 shown
61615/60637

SAVE 55%

\$399.11 ~~\$599.99~~

REG. PRICE \$89.99

83756569

LIMIT 3 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON

POWDER-FREE NITRILE GLOVES
HARDY PACK OF 100

• 5 mil. thickness

YOUR CHOICE!

\$6.49

REG. PRICE \$11.99

83752051

LIMIT 6 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON

RAPID PUMP® 3 TON
LOW PROFILE
HEAVY DUTY STEEL
FLOOR JACK

SAVE \$85

LOT 68049/62326
62670/61253/61282 shown

\$84.99 ~~\$169.99~~

REG. PRICE \$169.99

83752722

LIMIT 4 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON

4-1/2" ANGLE GRINDER
drillmaster

LOT 60625 shown
95578/69645

SAVE 40%

\$11.99

REG. PRICE \$19.99

83756977

LIMIT 7 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON

10 FT. x 20 FT. PORTABLE
CAR CANOPY

LOT 60728/62858
62857/69034 shown

SAVE \$80

\$119.99

~~\$149.99~~

REG. PRICE \$199.99

83760021

LIMIT 5 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON

16 OZ. HAMMERS
WITH FIBERGLASS
HANDLE

PITTSBURGH

CLAW LOT 69006
60715/60714

RIP LOT 47873 shown
69005/61262

YOUR CHOICE! \$2.99

REG. PRICE \$8.99

83753961

LIMIT 4 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON

**STEP STOOL/
WORKING PLATFORM**

HaulMaster

LOT 62515
66911 shown

SAVE 42%

\$19.99

~~\$29.99~~

REG. PRICE \$34.99

83755509

LIMIT 4 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON

PREDATOR GENERATORS

**4000 PEAK/
3200 RUNNING WATTS**
6.5 HP (212 CC)
GAS GENERATORS

• 70 dB Noise Level

LOT 69729/68528/69676 shown

SAVE \$200

\$299.99

~~\$499.99~~

REG. PRICE \$499.99

83752658

LIMIT 3 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON

26", 4 DRAWER
TOOL CART

US • GENERAL

LOT 95659 shown
61634/61952

WINNER
- Truckin' Magazine

SAVE \$180

\$99.99

REG. PRICE \$279.99

83752811

LIMIT 4 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON

AIRLESS
PAINT SPRAYER KIT

KRAUSE & BECKER

LOT 60600

SAVE \$130

\$169.99

REG. PRICE \$299.99

83755999

LIMIT 5 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON

HaulMaster

TRIPLE BALL
TRAILER HITCH

LOT 61913 shown
69874/61914

SAVE 66%

\$19.99

REG. PRICE \$59.99

83758767

LIMIT 6 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

WOW SUPER COUPON

1.5 HP ELECTRIC POLE SAW
OUTDOOR

SAVE \$30

LOT 62896/68862 shown

\$69.99

~~\$99.99~~

REG. PRICE \$99.99

83759580

LIMIT 5 - Good at our stores or HarborFreight.com or by calling 800-423-2567. Cannot be used with other discount or coupon or prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase with original receipt. Offer good while supplies last. Non-transferable. Original coupon must be presented. Valid through 1/15/16. Limit one coupon per customer per day.

• 100% Satisfaction Guaranteed
• Over 25 Million Satisfied Customers

• No Hassle Return Policy
• Lifetime Warranty On All Hand Tools

• 600 Stores Nationwide
• HarborFreight.com 800-423-2567



William Shatner leads the way for Legion Riders as they travel Route 66 from Flagstaff, Ariz., to Las Vegas.

Photos by Jeric Wilhelmsen

LEGION RIDERS

Shatner joins ride for children of fallen troops

Entertainment icon William Shatner set out on the Rivet Ride June 23, hoping to promote a newly designed motorcycle: the Rivet, a collaboration between himself and Rivet Motors.

Mechanical issues forced Shatner and his wife, Liz, to make the ride on a Harley-Davidson trike, but with the support of American Wrench, they traveled from Chicago to Los Angeles in eight days. A film crew rode along to make a

documentary about Shatner's journey, with four American Legion Riders who – with the actor, best known for his role on "Star Trek" – used stops to raise awareness about the Legion's Legacy Fund, a scholarship program for the children of U.S. servicemembers killed in the line of duty on or after 9/11.

When the group hit the West, temperatures soared into the triple digits. "At 65 and 70 miles an hour in that hot wind, it's like a blowtorch going down the highway," said Bill Sloan, the Legion's Internal Affairs Division and national staff liaison to the Riders, who helped lead the journey.

Shatner called the ride "the most physically taxing thing that I've ever done." But that didn't temper his enthusiasm for promoting the Legacy Run when he arrived in Los Angeles. He urged those attending the post-ride party to find sponsors for what he called a "wonderful cause."

Wells Fargo stepped up with a \$10,000 donation at the post-ride party, while Shatner and other riders collected donations along the way. Shatner himself received a \$100



donation from one individual. "That was really charitable giving from a man who was on a (limited) income," he said. "We don't even know how little he was getting. He was trying to help."

Also on the ride were Scott Miller, the Legion's deputy director for marketing, and Legion Riders Debbie Bickel of Indiana and Rodney Herring of Florida. Dozens of other Legion Riders acted as escorts through

their states to support the Legacy Fund and the man promoting it.

Thomas Trujillo of Post 149 in Las Vegas presented Shatner with a \$1,000 check on behalf of his post during a stop at the Las Vegas Harley-Davidson. "I think we all have to put our best foot forward for such a great effort," he said.

Shatner called the support from Legion Riders along the way "unbelievable. You have to see it in their faces and their eyes to believe it – how much they're giving."

In Emporia, Kan., the group met with Cole McClain and his mother, Ashley. Cole's father, J.C., was killed in action in Afghanistan in 2006. Cole, who was 3 at the time, recalled Legion Riders attending the funeral. He wanted to meet the Riders at their stop. "I think that was a real gut check for all of us," Miller said. "We were riding for Cole."

Shatner added that Cole "needs an education. The American Legion (Legacy) Scholarship Fund will provide that scholarship."

– Steve Brooks

MEMBERSHIP

All-women Legion post re-emerges in Colorado

The only all-women American Legion post in Colorado is coming back to life after shutting down in 2012. Army veteran Terri Shelefontiuk, commander of Post 206 in Aurora, Colo., said she recognized the need for a Legion presence in the community but wanted to honor the post's legacy, which received its charter in 1957.

"We didn't want to lose the history of the post," says Shelefontiuk, who connected with longtime members as she worked to reinstate Post 206.

"I thought, 'Oh my gosh. What is involved with reopening a post and how much work is this going to be?' And then we started hanging around enough female veterans, and we realized we needed to open this post for them."

When the post began, at least one World War I nurse and several World War II nurses belonged. Now its 40-plus members include medics, machinists and others whose service ranges from World War II to the war on terrorism.



Commander Terri Shelefontiuk meets with two original Post 206 members whose years in the Legion total more than 115. Photo by Lucas Carter

Among the World War II veterans is Aileen Bissing, an Army veteran and 55-year Legionnaire.

"I was tickled to death to learn the post was going to be restarted," she says. Bissing transferred to Post 206 after belonging to other posts where she says she was relegated to serving coffee and overlooked for leadership positions.

Bissing, who grew up in Kansas, has fond memories of the Legion. "My father was a member, and I always liked the

Legion." As a teenager, she performed with the American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps from 1935 to 1940. "The Legion feels natural to me," she says.

Starting in the '50s, Post 206 sponsored Boys State and Girls State. Members also marched in parades – a tradition it will renew this Veterans Day at the parade in Denver.

"It's our legacy we're preserving," Shelefontiuk says.

– Henry Howard

ACTIVE DUTY

Marines to hitch rides on allies' ships?

As sequestration continues to hack away at the U.S. military's reach and resources, the Marine Corps is considering a plan to deploy Marines aboard foreign vessels, *USA Today* reports.

"The U.S. Navy has 30 amphibious ships but says it needs 38 to fulfill war-fighting requirements. It won't reach that level until 2028 because of budget constraints," the paper reports. So the resourceful Marine Corps is considering ride-along partnerships with the navies of Spain, Italy, the United Kingdom and other close allies.

Brig. Gen. Norman Cooling – deputy commander of U.S. Marine Corps Forces Europe and Africa – says that "there's no substitute for U.S. amphibious," but concedes this stopgap option may be necessary.



Maritime Action Ship (BAM) Rayo (P-42) of the Spanish Armada. Wikimedia Commons

Classic Silver Coins of the Greatest Generation

As low as \$12

Get a great low price on original 1916-1947 U.S. "Walking Liberty" silver half dollars! This superlative half dollar is regarded as one of America's finest coin designs. The 90% silver coins were often carried as good luck pieces in the pockets of WWII service men. Nicely detailed Very Fine quality. Our choice of dates. **1 for \$12.95 (#47279). 10 for \$120 (\$12 each).** 30-Day No-Risk Guarantee. NO CLUBS TO JOIN; NO ON-APPROVAL COINS SENT.

International Coins & Currency
62 Ridge St., Dept. N5558, Montpelier, VT 05602
1-800-451-4463
www.iccoin.com/n5558

ASK A SERVICE OFFICER

Roundup of other VA benefits



Cajun Comeau
Department Service
Officer, North Carolina

Q: What are some other VA benefits that I may not know about?

A: Most veterans know about the basic health-care and education benefits available to them through VA, but there are some other ancillary benefit programs.

■ **Aid and Attendance**

Long-term care is expensive but often necessary to provide care for aging relatives. Through the Aid and Attendance program, many veterans are eligible to receive money to cover the cost of long-term care options. Should you choose to take care of an ailing veteran at home, VA offers a caregiver support program.

■ **Burial benefits** When a veteran dies, families may request a U.S. flag to drape over the casket and a certificate to honor the deceased loved one's service. VA also provides a free headstone or grave marker.

■ **GI Bill** In addition to receiving credits to use toward a college degree, the GI Bill offers up to \$2,000 to help cover the cost of certification courses or other vocational training programs. Unused credits may be transferred to spouses and dependents, although there are service limits required to transfer the benefits.

■ **Life insurance** Many veterans have trouble obtaining traditional life insurance, particularly if they sustained an injury during their service. Veterans may receive up to \$400,000 in life insurance through the Veterans' Group Life Insurance program, which offers competitive premium rates.

■ **Housing assistance** Veterans who are having trouble making their mortgage payments are eligible for repayment assistance through VA. Additional benefits are available for veterans with VA loans and for homeless veterans.

Find an American Legion service officer in your state: www.legion.org/serviceofficers

Do you have a question for Department of North Carolina Service Officer Cajun Comeau about the claims process or veterans benefits in general? Send it to askso@legion.org.



CENTENNIAL

Post 70, Nutley, N.J.

This reconstructed Model T – known as “The Brass Hat” to members of Post 70 in Nutley, N.J., because of its roof – accompanied the post's drum corps to parades and was used for advertising events around town. The car was destroyed in a fire on Fifth Avenue in New York City during the Legion's 1937 national convention parade.

Share your post's legacy

Upload photos, stories and videos of your post's history on the Legion's Centennial Celebration website.

www.legion.org/centennial

GOVERNMENT

IRS troubles

50 million

Number of taxpayers who contacted the Internal Revenue Service for assistance this filing season

8.8 million

Number of times the IRS hung up on taxpayers this filing season

544,000

Number of times the IRS hung up on taxpayers last filing season

< 10 percent

Fraction of taxpayers calling about alleged identity theft who got through to the IRS help line

23 minutes

Average hold time this filing season

14 minutes

Average hold time last filing season

Source: The Washington Post

MAKE PAINFUL TASKS EASY AGAIN!

Soothing Relief For Arthritic Hands

Great For
Men
&
Women

Magnetic Anti-Arthritis
Therapy Gloves
only \$12.99

FREE SHIPPING & HANDLING!

Ease Pain From Arthritis &
Carpal Tunnel Syndrome



Opening Jars



Writing



Typing



Connect with Dream Products



email



blog



facebook



pinterest



google+

Provides
Continuous
Soothing
Warmth

Controlled Compression
"Massages" Away Pain

Strategically
Placed
Magnets



Reflects Therapeutic Warmth
Into Aching Hands & Joints

DreamProducts.com

(website offers
may vary)

1-800-530-2689

ORDER NOW
TOLL-FREE

Treat your hurting hands to magnetic and therapeutic warmth, to ease pain from arthritis or carpal tunnel syndrome. Miracle 4-way stretch with controlled compression "massages" away pain. Magnetic therapy has been trusted for centuries by millions, who believe it can help increase circulation & ease stiffness. Washable imported therapy gloves are made of a breathable nylon/spandex blend.

Receive A FREE SURPRISE GIFT
With Every Order!

Satisfaction Guaranteed or Return For Your Money Back

Magnetic Anti-Arthritis Therapy Gloves

#98308	Pair(s) Ladies' Gloves @ \$12.99	\$
#98366	Pair(s) Men's Gloves @ \$12.99	\$
CA residents must add 7.5% sales tax		\$
FREE Regular Shipping & Handling		\$ FREE
FOR EXPEDITED SHIPPING (optional) Add An Additional \$2.95 (receive your order 5-7 days from shipment)		\$ 2.95
TOTAL		\$

Please Print Clearly

Check or money order payable to: Dream Products, Inc.
Send Order To: 412 Dream Lane, Van Nuys, CA 91496

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover®/NOVUSSM Cards

Dept. 71744	Card#	Exp. Date

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone # _____

Email Address _____

Dept. 71744 © 2015 Dream Products, Inc. (Prices valid for 1yr.)



Rhiann Travis of Texas won the Precision shooter title at the Junior 3-Position Air Rifle National Championship in Colorado. Photo by Clay Lometh

SHOOTING SPORTS

Texas, Arizona marksmen claim Legion titles

At The American Legion's 25th annual Junior 3-Position Air Rifle National Championship in Colorado Springs, Colo., in July, two teens proved they were the class of the field.

Rhiann Travis of Weatherford, Texas, rolled up 2,487.9 points to capture the Precision title by 11.7 points over her closest competitor. Adam McClintock of Tucson, Ariz., was equally dominant, securing first place in the Sporter division by 15.9 points with a score of 2,331 during the finals July 25. Both earned \$5,000 scholarships.

Sponsored by Parker County Post 163 in Weatherford, Travis fended off a strong challenge in the final round, as three other participants – Mitchell Van Patten of Idaho, Emily Stith of Washington and Casey Lutz of Idaho – totaled 102.2 points or higher over their final 10 shots. But Travis herself delivered a score of 102.9 to fend off the competition. Van Patten, the 2011 sporter champion, ended up second.

Sponsored by Morgan McDermott Post 7 in Tucson, Ariz., McClintock built a 10-point lead heading into the final round and was all clutch, setting a Legion finals record with a 97.0 on his final 10 shots – including four of 10.3 or higher. Gabriel Palermo of Illinois finished second.

– Steve Brooks

PRECISION

Rhiann Travis, Parker County 4-H Shooting Sports (Texas), 2,487.9

Mitchell Van Patten, Meridian Optimist Junior Rifle Club (Idaho), 2,476.2

Emily Stith, Capitol City Junior Rifle Club (Washington), 2,468.3

Casey Lutz, Meridian Optimist Junior Rifle Club (Idaho), 2,451.1

Jacob Buchanan, Montgomery County 4-H Shooting Sports Club, (Texas), 2,455.9

SPORTER

Adam McClintock, Flowing Wells High School (Arizona), 2,331

Gabriel Palermo, Freeport High School NJROTC (Illinois), 2,315.1

Baylee Boone, R-S Central MCJROTC Sporter (North Carolina), 2,314.6

Larry Maloney, Turlock High School NJROTC (California), 2,308.6

Howard Norrish, Zion-Benton High School NJROTC (Wisconsin), 2,297.4

MEMBER DISCOUNTS

Get personalized hearing help based on lifestyle

If you're like millions of other Americans, the day will come when you realize you need help hearing. But which hearing aid is the best for you? This might seem like a tough question to answer, given the various combinations of styles, brands, models, technology levels and options available.

Amplifon Hearing Health Care professionals are trained and experienced in recommending the ideal hearing solution for you. They get to know you and your lifestyle, interests and preferences. This helps them develop an individual personal profile and then recommend the right hearing aid and options for your needs.

This graphic illustrates how various profiles can guide the hearing health-care professional in determining what's best for each patient.

If you suspect a hearing loss, call **1-888-319-9207** to schedule your appointment today.

Outdoor Enthusiast	Social Butterfly	Career Minded	Tech Savvy	Home Body
For those who love to hike, fish, hunt or the plethora of other outdoor activities, make sure your hearing aid is the best fit for you.	Meeting up with your friends in a coffee shop, chatting after church, or going to a concert can be difficult to enjoy with a hearing loss.	Important presentation at work? Tradeshow conversations difficult to understand? Ensure your hearing aid has the right features for you.	Always shopping for the latest gadget and software? Make sure your hearing aid purchase is no different.	Enjoy quiet bedtime and snoring partner? Live much more peacefully when you get the right hearing aid.
Typical activities include: Golfing, Fishing, Hunting, Tennis, Watersports, and more.	Typical activities include: Eating at restaurants, concerts, religious services, movies, plays, etc.	Typical activities include: Meetings in small and large groups, phone calls, working near noisy machinery.	Typical activities include: Using a smartphone, listening to music on the MP3 player, seeing entertainment events more.	Typical activities include: Quiet conversations, reading the newspaper, watching TV.
Hearing aid features to consider:	Hearing aid features to consider:	Hearing aid features to consider:	Hearing aid features to consider:	Hearing aid features to consider:
- Wind noise reduction - Sweat & dirt resistant - Waterproof - Directional microphones - Background noise reduction - Remote control	- Wireless streaming - Speech enhancement - Wireless microphone for companion - Directional microphones - Background noise reduction - Remote control	- Wireless streaming - Telephone coil - Smartphone integration - Directional microphones - Background noise reduction - Remote control	- Wireless streaming - Telephone coil - Smartphone integration - Speech enhancement - Remote control	- Wind noise reduction - Sweat & dirt resistant - Wireless microphone for companion - Directional microphones - Background noise reduction - Remote control



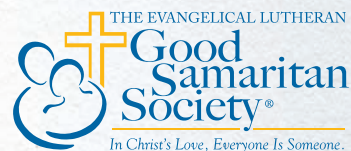
A neighborhood that feels like home.

For years, your neighborhood was full of friends, fun and a sense of belonging. Then one morning you woke up and realized the neighborhood just wasn't the same anymore. Senior living at the Good Samaritan Society can help you feel right at home again. Your new neighbors are waiting.

Connect with someone who can help
you learn more about your options:

call 1-888-603-7076 or

visit www.good-sam.com/learnmore.



In Christ's Love, Everyone Is Someone.



All faiths or beliefs are welcome. 14-G1951

newlifepatriot.com

P.O. Box 1280 • Somerset, KY 42502-1280

1-800-443-9523



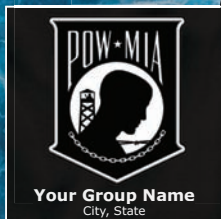
Design Code:

S-HFRB

Also Available On



Cardinal Red



Your Group Name
City, State

Example of Left Chest Seal
and Personalization



Also Available in Long Sleeve T-shirts
for only \$12.95 each

NewLife®
Brand Apparel

HONORING OUR HEROES

VETERANS DAY • NOVEMBER 11

**\$9.95
EACH**

(add \$3 per shirt for 2X; add \$4 per shirt for 3X, 4X, 5X)
+Shipping and Handling (See rates below)

FREE PERSONALIZATION

with your Organization Name under the left chest seal
on orders of 12 or more personalized shirts.

Deadline for this offer is

October 22, 2015

Please provide Offer Code **AD127** when placing your order.

Take advantage of \$5 FLAT SHIPPING (in the Contiguous U.S.) on ONLINE orders of 12 or more shirts!

SHIPPING CHARGES

Order Value	Cost	Order Value	Cost
Under \$49.99	\$7.00	\$200 - \$349.99	\$18.00
\$50 - \$99.99	\$9.00	\$350 - \$499.99	\$25.00
\$100 - \$199.99	\$13.00	\$500 +	\$35.00

Call for quote outside Contiguous U.S.

100% SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

CAREERS



Words that matter most

There are three important rules to follow when writing résumés, cover letters, thank-you letters, LinkedIn profiles,

social media bios and other career communications. If you do, you'll be certain to attract the right jobs and employers.

Write with words that create perception.

Always remember that you're writing to the job(s) you're targeting. Focus on related skills, experience and/or education you have, bringing that information to the forefront so recruiters and hiring managers will see you as you wish to be perceived.

You may have served as an infantryman, but if your goal is a management position, focus on your skills in training and development, leadership, performance management and more. Search ads for positions that interest you, and try to parlay your experience to create the perception that you are a qualified candidate.

Write with keywords recruiters and hiring managers use. Keywords are central to how recruiters and hiring managers find candidates. Whether a scan of a résumé you posted in response to an ad or a recruiter's search on LinkedIn, it is all about keywords.

Integrate as many keywords as possible that relate to your objectives. Those from what you've done in the past aren't as important, unless they relate to your current goals.

Example: while in the Navy, you managed logistics 80 percent of the time and technology 20 percent. Your goal is a tech job. Writing with as many tech keywords as possible will give you a significant advantage.

Write with action verbs. Read the difference in these two sentences:

- Responsible for budgeting for Army personnel.
- Planned and managed millions of dollars in budgets for operations in 16 countries with 10,000+ personnel.

Can you see the difference when you start with action verbs and add numbers and other specifics to give your sentences depth? Writing with the right words will give you an edge and accelerate your search.

Wendy Enelow is co-author of "Expert Résumés for Military-to-Civilian Transitions" and "Expert Résumés for Career Changers."



Bryce Nurdung, Ryan Tallman, Jonathan Williams and Vietnam War veteran Don Child, front to back, ride into LaGrange, Ind., on July 31. The team rode across the country to raise money for The American Legion's Operation Comfort Warriors program. Photo by Clay Lomneth

OPERATION COMFORT WARRIORS

Scouts' cross-country bike trip shatters donations goal

Three Boy Scouts and a Vietnam War veteran raised \$20,000 riding their bikes across the country to benefit The American Legion's Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW) program.

The crew of "Bike Trip America" arrived at One World Trade Center in New York City on Aug. 15, after pedaling 3,600 miles. Their ride began in Astoria, Ore., on June 15 and went through the Pacific Northwest, the upper Midwest, the Great Lakes region and eventually into New York state, averaging about 70 miles each day.

The group set a goal of \$10,000 in donations for OCW, which provides comfort items to wounded warriors at VA medical centers and military medical facilities. But thanks to Legion Family members they met along the way, the team nearly doubled that amount.

Bryce Nurdung, 17, organized the trip. Other riders included fellow Scouts Jonathan Williams and Ryan Tallman, Vietnam War veteran Don Child, 70, and "support car" driver Pat Wollner.

The group dipped their tires into the Hudson River in Beacon, N.Y., celebrating their coast-to-coast journey. Then they rode downstate into the city, where NYPD officers escorted them to the Ground Zero site. A welcoming party greeted them, including American Legion Past National Commander Fang Wong, leading candidate for 2016-2017 national commander Charlie Schmidt and Legion Family members from the tri-state area.

Lt. B.R. Kimlau Chinese Memorial Post 1291 of Chinatown donated \$1,000, and the group's bikes were shipped home courtesy of Chris Nolte, an OIF/OEF veteran who owns Propel Bikes in Brooklyn. During the trip, the team stopped at or near Legion posts, starting with Astoria Post 12, which donated \$1,000. Nearly \$4,000 poured in at Post 215 in LaGrange, Ind.

"We each have an obligation to serve our nation and local communities," said Robert M. Gates, national president of Boy Scouts of America and a member of The American Legion's 100th Anniversary Honorary Committee. "I'm proud of these Scouts for this accomplishment, which honors servicemen and women to whom we all owe a debt of gratitude."

— Andy Romey

 www.legion.org/ocw

Do you or a loved one **STRUGGLE** on the stairs?

We have the AFFORDABLE solution!

Arthritis Foundation
Ease of UseSM

The only stairlift
to earn the
Ease of Use
Commendation
from the Arthritis
Foundation.

- The **WORLD LEADER**
in stairlifts

- The **MOST TRUSTED** name
in the industry

- **BUY DIRECT** from the
manufacturer and **SAVE**

- **A+ Rating** with the
Better Business Bureau



CALL NOW FOR YOUR FREE INFORMATION KIT AND DVD!

1-877-242-3122



ACORN
STAIRLIFTS
AcornStairlifts.com

MENTION THIS AD FOR

\$250 OFF*

PURCHASE OF A NEW STAIRLIFT!



A+

*Not valid on previous purchases. Not valid with any other offers or discounts. Not valid on refurbished models. Only valid towards purchase of a NEW Acorn Stairlift directly from the manufacturer. \$250 discount will be applied to new orders. Please mention this ad when calling.



✓Yes



✓Yes



xNo



✓Yes



Complete Assemblies!

✓Yes



✓Yes

- ✓ Reliably Low Prices
- ✓ Easy To Use Website
- ✓ Huge Selection
- ✓ Fast Shipping

www.rockauto.com

ROCKAUTO.COM
ALL THE PARTS YOUR CAR WILL EVER NEED

Players of Chapin-Newberry, S.C. Post 193 celebrate winning the American Legion World Series at Keeter Stadium in Shelby, N.C., Aug. 18. The team won 9-2.

Photo by Clay Lammeth



LEGION BASEBALL

South Carolina saves best for last to win ALWS

Chapin-Newberry, S.C., Post 193, which rallied to win three games in the eighth inning or later before the final Aug. 18, took the lead early and used two big innings to push past Retif Oil (New Orleans) 9-2 and win the 2015 American Legion World Series championship at Keeter Stadium in Shelby, N.C., sponsored by USAA.

Post 193 (32-1) led 2-1 after the first inning and used a three-run sixth and four-run eighth to break open the game in an ALWS that featured a record 11 one-run games. Peyton Spangler, Justin Hawkins and Kevin Burton each had two RBIs for Chapin-Newberry, while eight different players scored. Post 193 also totaled 12 hits from nine different players.

"That's the way we normally hit the ball," said Post 193 center fielder Danton Hyman, who scored twice, drove in a run and played flawless defense in the outfield. "We've been talking about how we've got to come out sometime hitting the ball like we did. When we were hitting the ball in that first inning, I knew it was going to be a good day for us."

Leading the entire game was something new for the Chapin-Newberry team, South Carolina's first ALWS champ in 80 years, but that didn't make things any easier for coach Daniel Gregory.

"Even up more than two or three times for the first time in a long time, you still pace the dugout because baseball is a crazy game and (New Orleans is) a really good baseball team," he said. "So until the last out is made, you can't relax."

He added, "What I hope doesn't get lost in this is the job Tristan Smaltz did for us on the mound. We told him going in, 'If you'll give us four or five innings and put us in a position past that, that's all we're going to ask of you tonight.' Instead of letting his pride get the best of him – which none of these kids do – he accepted that role. And to be able to hand it over to somebody like Ryne Huggins is pretty special."

Retif Oil finished 35-8, and outfielder Ben Hess received the James F. Daniel Jr. Memorial Sportsmanship Award.

"It's kind of hard to put into words how proud I am of this group," said Joseph Latino, Retif Oil's manager. "We started off the summer 1-4, and things weren't looking too good. We just kept telling them, 'It's a process, it's a process. Just stay committed, stay dedicated to the hard work.' They did exactly that, and for them to end up here playing tonight on this great stage against a great ballclub says everything you need to know about that group of players in there."

– Steve Brooks

ALL-ACADEMIC TEAM

Each team member receives a \$2,500 scholarship; the overall top academic player receives a \$5,000 scholarship.

The annual All-Academic Team is sponsored by Diamond Sports, a leading manufacturer in baseball merchandise and the official baseball used during American Legion Baseball national tournaments.

Joshua R. Wasilewski (team captain), Belmont, Vt., Post 50

Benjamin Schragger, Hopewell, N.J., Post 339

Willie Norwood Jr., Columbia, Tenn., Post 19

Asher Freybler, Onalaska, Wis., Post 336

Craig Petrich, Omaha, Neb., Post 1

Bryce Rogan, Medford, Ore., Post 15

POSTSEASON AWARDS

Chapin-Newberry Post 193 shortstop Justin Hawkins received the George W. Rulon American Legion Player of the Year Award. In regional and ALWS play, Hawkins hit .368 with five home runs and 12 runs batted in. His effort also won him the Dr. Irvin L. "Click" Cowger RBI Award for the most RBIs and the Big Stick Award for the most total bases (31).

New Orleans outfielder Ben Hess received the James F. Daniel Jr. Memorial Sportsmanship Award and the American Legion Baseball Slugger Award for the highest batting average (.488) during national competition.

The Jack Williams Memorial Leadership Award went to Post 193's coaching staff: Ken Minasian, Daniel Gregory, Bob Livingston, David Coats, Marion Baker and Michael Robertson.

Medford, Ore., Post 15 pitcher Jordan Ragan received the Bob Feller Pitching Award for the most strikeouts (23).

WAR ON TERRORISM

Enemy of my enemy

The U.S. military and Iranian-backed Shiite militias are sharing the Taqqadum military base in Iraq's Anbar province – “the same Iraqi base where President Obama is sending an additional 450 U.S. military personnel to help train the local forces fighting against the Islamic State,” Josh Rogin and Eli Lake of Bloomberg News recently reported.

The arrangement raises more than a few concerns. U.S. intelligence sources have reported spying on U.S. operations by “some of the more extreme militias,” according to Rogin and Lake.

Perhaps even more problematic: “Some of the Iran-backed Shiite militias at the base have killed American soldiers in the past.”

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Moscow targets civil society groups

The Russian government is in the process of banning 12 prominent foreign organizations committed to political pluralism, civil society and democracy promotion, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty reports.

Under a new law aimed at ridding Russia of “undesirable” organizations, a Russian legislative body ordered the prosecutor general's office, foreign ministry and justice ministry to investigate the operations of several Western organizations with the ultimate aim of shutting them down. Targeted groups include Freedom House, the Open Society Foundation, the National Endowment for Democracy, the International Republican Institute, the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, the MacArthur Foundation, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and the Education for Democracy Foundation.

ADVERTISEMENT

RINGING IN THE EARS?

If you have a history of exposure to loud noises and now experience ringing in the ears, buzzing, hissing, whistling, or other sounds, you should know that help is available. Many people are putting up with irritating noises because they are not aware of this proven treatment.

MagniLife® Ringing Ear Relief has helped thousands find relief when nothing else has worked. It can be taken along with other medications with no known side effects. *“This tablet seems to be the only thing I’ve found that brings relief.”* - Bert M., Mt. Pleasant, IA. Tablets dissolve under

the tongue and contain Lycopodium, which reduces noises in the ears. *“I would definitely recommend this product to anyone.”* - C. Robinson, OH.

MagniLife® Ringing Ear Relief is **available at CVS/pharmacy and Rite Aid Pharmacy**. Order risk free for \$19.99 (\$5.95 S&H) for 125 tablets per bottle. Get a **FREE** bottle when you order two for \$39.98 (\$9.95 S&H). Send payment to: MagniLife T-AL2, PO Box 6789, McKinney, TX 75071 or call **1-800-670-1556**. Complete satisfaction guaranteed for 90 days, or receive a full refund. Order now at www.RelieveRinging.com

LEG CRAMPS AT NIGHT?

If you experience painful muscle cramps in your legs, calves, feet, or toes, especially at night, help is now available. Over 100 million people suffer from nighttime leg cramps and put up with the pain and loss of sleep when relief is available.

MagniLife® Leg Cramp Relief contains eight active ingredients, such as Magnesia Phosphorica, which reduces cramps and radiating pains that are worse at night. *“Your product has severely helped me and I thank you so*

very much.” - Marie L., MT.

MagniLife® Leg Cramp Relief is **sold at CVS/pharmacy and Rite Aid Pharmacy**. Order risk free for \$19.99 (\$5.95 S&H) for 125 tablets per bottle. Get a **FREE** bottle when you order two for \$39.98 (\$9.95 S&H). Send payment to: MagniLife L-AL2, PO Box 6789, McKinney, TX 75071, or call **1-800-670-1556**. Complete satisfaction guaranteed for 90 days, or receive a full refund. Order now at www.LegCrampsRelief.com

PAIN DOWN YOUR LEG?

Are you suffering with pain in the buttock, leg or lower back, or tingling and numbness in the legs and feet? Over 20 million Americans experience similar symptoms and live with the pain, because they are not aware of this proven treatment available without a prescription at most pharmacies.

MagniLife® Leg & Back Pain Relief combines four active ingredients, such as Colocynthis to relieve burning pains and tingling sensations. *“I am absolutely amazed at how it works and how fast it works.”* - T Martin. Tablets dissolve under the tongue and can be

taken with other medications. *“Those little tablets are like relief in a snap.”* - Patsy, CO.

MagniLife® Leg & Back Pain Relief is **sold at Walgreens, CVS/pharmacy, Rite Aid Pharmacy and Walmart**. Order risk free for \$19.99 (\$5.95 S&H) for 125 tablets per bottle. Get a **FREE** bottle when you order two for \$39.98 (\$9.95 S&H). Send payment to: MagniLife S-AL2, PO Box 6789, McKinney, TX 75071 or call **1-800-670-1556**. Satisfaction guaranteed for 90 days, or receive a full refund. Order now at www.LegBackPain.com

These statements have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. These products are not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease.

PERSONAL FINANCE



What you need to know about IRAs

FOCUS ON FINANCES



J.J. MONTANARO

What is an IRA?

Before I answer this question, I'll share another one that I'm asked frequently: "What are your IRAs paying?"

When I hear this, I bite my tongue and think about candy bar wrappers, envelopes and garages.

I'm not kidding. I've found these analogies to be a helpful way to keep from uttering a snarky "nothing" in response to the inquiry.

Why nothing? Because contrary to what some people think, an IRA itself is not an investment. It's really just a special type of account established by the government to encourage folks to save for retirement. It's an account Uncle Sam makes more enticing by offering special tax treatment to those willing to commit for the long haul.

And since it's an account and not an investment, an IRA really doesn't pay anything. An IRA is a container – a candy bar wrapper, envelope or garage, if you will. The investment stuff inside of an IRA is what provides the interest or return.

Want growth potential from your IRA? Purchase market-based investments like stock mutual funds or exchange traded funds. Want safety and security? Choose something like a CD. You get to make the call.

The specific IRA you select will govern the tax treatment of the account, not the returns. Let's briefly look at two common IRA types:

■ **Traditional IRAs** have been around since the 1980s. They provide deferral of taxes on the investment income inside the account and in certain circumstances can lower your taxes when you contribute. Unfortunately though, not everyone can deduct a contribution to an IRA. Here's a link to

the IRS rules on the topic. The trade-offs? First, you generally can't use traditional IRA money before age 59½ without incurring penalties. And second, you'll eventually have to pay taxes when you pull the money out.

■ **Roth IRAs** haven't been around quite as long as their traditional sibling, but they also offer some significant tax advantages. As with a traditional IRA, Roth IRAs allow you to defer taxes on the interest, dividends and capital gains generated by the investments you choose. Again, there is no tax bill for what happens inside the account from one year to the next. There are, however, some major differences.

First, with a Roth IRA, you cannot deduct your contributions. They go into the account on an after-tax basis. There are also differences when you make withdrawals. Unlike a traditional IRA, Roth contributions can be withdrawn at any time without taxes or penalties – not so for earnings, though. And if you clear a couple of hurdles, you may never have to pay taxes on any growth you experience over the life of your account.

Finally, as I've already mentioned, there are some eligibility restrictions for both traditional and Roth IRAs and some deductibility restrictions with traditional IRAs, so be sure you're eligible before you contribute to either. Check out IRS Publication 590-A for the information you'll need on these topics or check with a qualified tax professional.

J.J. Montanaro is a certified financial planner with USAA, The American Legion's preferred provider of financial services. Submit questions for him online.

www.legion.org/usaa/focusonfinances

Investing for retirement? Call 877-699-2654 to hear what USAA has to offer.

EDUCATION

VA-sponsored IT programs



Q: What do the new learning programs from VA entail?

A: Accelerated Learning Programs (ALPs), sponsored by VA, are designed for those who are interested in starting or continuing a career in information technology. Transitioning servicemembers and veterans are eligible to participate in an ALP at no cost, without using GI Bill benefits. Job placement services are

available upon completing a program.

ALPs are available at locations across the country and online. For more information, visit benefits.va.gov/tap/alp.asp.

Valerie Heffner is a Marine Corps veteran and a member of American Legion Post 27 in Arizona. askvalerie@legion.org

VERBATIM

He said he and his friend took down a terrorist on a train heading to Paris ... like it was no big deal.

Emanuel Skarlatos, father of Alek Skarlatos, an Oregon National Guardsman who helped tackle a gunman on a Paris-bound train Aug. 21.

Joining him were friends Airman 1st Class Spencer Stone and Sacramento State University student Anthony Sadler, along with British citizen Chris Norman. The four received the Legion d'Honneur, France's highest honor.

Source: CNN

Wow! A Simple to Use Computer Designed Especially for Seniors!

Easy to read. Easy to see. Easy to use. Just plug it in!



"I love this computer! It is easy to read and to use! I get photo updates from my children and grandchildren all the time."

— Janet F.

Have you ever said to yourself "I'd love to get a computer, if only I could figure out how to use it." Well, you're not alone. Computers were supposed to make our lives simpler, but they've gotten so complicated that they are not worth the trouble. With all of the "pointing and clicking" and "dragging and dropping" you're lucky if you can figure out where you are. Plus, you are constantly worrying about viruses and freeze-ups. If this sounds familiar, we have great news for you. There is finally a computer that's designed for simplicity and ease of use. It's the WOW Computer, and it was designed with you in mind. This computer is easy-to-use, worry-free and literally puts the world at

your fingertips. From the moment you open the box, you'll realize how different the WOW Computer is. The components are all connected; all you do is plug it into an outlet and your high-speed Internet connection. Then you'll see the screen – it's now 22 inches. This is a completely new touch screen system, without the cluttered look of the normal computer screen. The "buttons" on the screen are easy to see and easy to understand. All you do is touch one of them, from the Web, Email, Calendar to Games– you name it... and a new screen opens up. It's so easy to use you won't have to ask your children or grandchildren for help. Until now, the very people who could benefit most from E-mail and the Internet are the ones that have had the hardest time accessing it. Now, thanks to the WOW Computer, countless older Americans are discovering the wonderful world of the Internet every day. Isn't it

time you took part? Call now, and a patient, knowledgeable product expert will tell you how you can try it in your home for 30 days. If you are not totally satisfied, simply return it within 30 days for a refund of the product purchase price. Call today.

- Send & Receive Emails
- Have video chats with family and friends
- Surf the Internet:
Get current weather and news
- Play games Online:
Hundreds to choose from!

Call now toll free and find out how you can get the new WOW! Computer.

Mention promotional code 100514 for special introductory pricing.

1-877-725-6434



How to submit a reunion

The American Legion Magazine publishes reunion notices for veterans. Send notices to **The American Legion Magazine, Attn: Reunions, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206**, fax (317) 630-1280, e-mail reunions@legion.org or submit information via our website, www.legion.org/reunions.

Include the branch of service and complete name of the group, no abbreviations, with your request. The listing also should include the reunion dates and city, along with a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. Listings are publicized free of charge.

Your notice will appear on our Web site within a week and will remain available online until the final day of your reunion. Upon submission, please allow three months for your reunion to be published in print. **Due to the large number of reunions, The American Legion Magazine will publish a group's listing only once a year.**

Notices should be sent at least six months prior to the reunion to ensure timely publication.

Other notices

"In Search Of" is a means of getting in touch with people from your unit to plan a reunion. **We do not publish listings that seek people for interviews, research purposes, military photos or help in filing a VA claim.** Listings must include the name of the unit from which you seek people, the time period and the location, as well as a contact name, telephone number and e-mail address. Send notices to **The American Legion Magazine, Attn: "In Search Of," P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206**, fax (317) 630-1280 or e-mail reunions@legion.org.

The magazine will not publish names of individuals, only the name of the unit. Listings are published free of charge.

Life Membership notices are published for Legionnaires who have been awarded life

memberships by their posts. **This does not include a member's own Paid-Up-For-Life membership.** Notices must be submitted on official forms, which may be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to **The American Legion Magazine, Attn: Life Memberships, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206.**

"Comrades in Distress" listings must be approved by the Legion's Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation division. If you are seeking to verify an injury received during service, contact your Legion department service officer for information on how to publish a notice.

To respond to a "Comrades in Distress" listing, send a letter to **The American Legion Magazine, Attn: Comrades in Distress, P.O. Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46206**. Include the listing's CID number in your response.

"Taps" notices are published only for Legionnaires who served as department commanders or national officers.

AIR FORCE / ARMY AIR FORCES

63rd CEMS, Warner Robins AFB, GA, 10/10-11, Bob Bren, bb31957@hotmail.com; **664th AC&W Sqdn**, Bellefontaine, OH, 6/24-26, Billy Stafford, (937) 592-2306, wildbill@columbus.rr.com; **Army Air Corps Sqdns & B-29 Crews (Iwo Jima, Feb-Mar 1945)**, Camp Pendleton, CA, 2/17-20, Dan Zepeda, (951) 201-6251, zepeda012@msn.com; **Phan Rang AB**, Charleston, SC, 10/8-10, Douglas Severt, (405) 732-5449, dougsevert@cox.net; **Westover AFB AF Special Projects Production Facility (AFSPPF) - 8th Recon Tech Sqdn**, 497th Recon Tech Sqdn, 6594th Test Sqdn, 7405th Support Group & 7499th Support Grp, Charleston, SC, 10/11-16, Dick Temple, (703) 786-4743, commander77dt@aol.com

ARMY

2nd Inf Div, San Antonio, 9/22-26, Bob Haynes, (224) 225-1202, Zidaha9@comcast.net; **3rd Armd Div (Spearhead)**, Washington, 7/20-24, Gale Messier, (802) 524-2494, gale.messier@gmail.com; **3rd Bn 47th Inf Recon 9th Inf Div (May 1966-Jan 1968, Vietnam)**, Portland, OR, 9/18-20, J.R. Johnson, (859) 229-6233, rj68ss396@aol.com; **4th Inf Div Assn (CA Chpt)**, San Diego, 10/18-21, Scott Moffat, (562) 443-4829; **5th Inf Rgt Assn**, Columbus, GA, 5/17-22, Carolyn Kethcart, (708) 468-8624, carolynkj@bobcat.ws; **24th Evac Hosp**, Branson, MO, 9/7-11, Gilbert Cusson, (219) 659-5739, gilbern68@yahoo.com; **95th Inf Div Assn**, Columbus, GA, 11/19-22, Terry Earnest, (816) 858-5967, terryandlorna@yahoo.com; **101st Abn Div Assn**, Tampa, FL, 2/10-14, Eddie Pissott,

(813) 932-2100, epissott@tampabay.rr.com; **317th Eng Bn**, Gatlinburg, TN, 6/25, James Palo, (877) 333-7743, groupsales@deerridge.com; **629th Ord Supply**, Gatlinburg, TN, 9/14-18, Gary Matthews, (712) 485-2422, gmtatt41347@aol.com; **B Btry 2nd Bn 2nd Air Def Arty (1972-1975)**, Amelia Island, FL, 9/11-13, Bob Livingston, (717) 486-7100, rolpatt@aol.com

COAST GUARD

CG All Ships (Iwo Jima, Feb-Mar 1945), Camp Pendleton, CA, 2/17-20, Dan Zepeda, (951) 201-6251, zepeda012@msn.com; **Moss Landing, CA (1967-1970)**, Worley, ID, 11/25-12/2, Ed Whitson, (208) 686-1045, ewhitsonn@gmail.com

JOINT

Counterparts (MACV Naval & Marine Advisers, Vietnam), San Diego, 4/27-30, Lewis Grassiafi, (619) 922-8682, luisaffi@yahoo.com

MARINES

2nd Bde 1st Mar (Vietnam), San Diego, 11/5-9, Mario Sagastume, (530) 521-3298, choncho0331@gmail.com; **3rd, 4th & 5th Divs and Support Units (Iwo Jima, Feb-Mar 1945)**, Camp Pendleton, CA, 2/17-20, Dan Zepeda, (951) 201-6251, zepeda012@msn.com; **India Co 3/7 "Band of Brothers" (Vietnam, 1969-1970)**, San Antonio, 11/8-10, Roger Villarreal, (832) 573-7382, rogerjarhead@gmail.com

NAVY

Ault DD 698, Jacksonville, FL, 4/26-30, Tony Fuentes, (210) 495-9554, fountain48@sbcglobal.net; **Clamagore Vets Assn**, Charleston, SC, 10/25-28, Jim Griffin, (850) 865-2766, realbiggem@cox.net; **Cogswell DD 651**, Herndon, VA, 6/3-5, George Overman, (760) 889-2216, secretary@usscogswell.com; **Copeland FFG 25**, St. Louis, 6/23-27, Dave Wendell, (360) 598-2048, dwendell@email.com; **Greenwich Bay AVP 41**, Savannah, GA, 10/8-10, Richard Huey, (248) 824-4915, rhuey0277@aol.com; **Harry E. Hubbard DD 748**, San Diego, 4/27-5/1, Dick Oliver, (727) 363-3059, dd748@mac.com; **Hopewell DD 681**, Branson, MO, 10/3-7, 2016, Ken Davis, (931) 728-9626, kfdavis718@yahoo.com; **Horne DLG/CG 30**, San Antonio, 4/27-30, Larry Goolsby, lgool8731@yahoo.com; **Howard W. Gilmore AS 16**, San Diego, 4/5-9, Francis Judy, (814) 432-8194, gjjudy@verizon.net; **Jouett DLG/CG 29**, San Antonio, 4/27-5/1, Ted Merritt, (650) 922-3671, ussjouett.com; **Monticello LSD 35**, Nashville, TN, 10/22-25, Robert Behm, (209) 772-0543, beamer@ussmonticello.com; **Monrovia APA 31**, Chelsea, MI, 10/21-25, Thomas Jester, (812) 371-6914; **Navy Corpsmen & Ship's Crew (Iwo Jima, Feb-Mar 1945)**, Camp Pendleton, CA, 2/17-20, Dan Zepeda, (951) 201-6251, zepeda012@msn.com;

LOWEST PRICE EVER on DR® Leaf and Lawn Vacuums!

NEW Models

Starting at
\$1,299⁹⁹



The NEW DR® Leaf Vacuum is designed from the top down to make yard clean up easier, faster, and more thorough than ever before. And for a limited time we are offering them at incredible low introductory prices!

- ✓ **Rated #1 in Vacuum Power**
- ✓ **Easy, 1-Hand Dumping**
- ✓ **Stores Flat in Minutes**
- ✓ **Converts to a Rugged Utility Trailer**



Unload with just one hand!



Doubles as a utility trailer!

89079X © 2015

FREE SHIPPING

1 YEAR TRIAL

SOME LIMITATIONS APPLY
Call or go online for details.

Call for **FREE DVD and Catalog!**

TOLL FREE **888-213-2036**
DRleafvac.com



Observation Island, Cocoa Beach, FL, 3/16-18, David Campbell, (248) 464-1597, obsisland154@outlook.com; **Rehoboth AGS 50**, Branson, MO, 10/1-4, Patrick Farrell, (650) 941-2527, pefarrell@sbcglobal.net; **Sauley DD 465**, Columbus, GA, 10/11-15, Homer Hirt, (850) 272-0643, hirtfam@gmail.com; **Shreveport LPD 12**, Wayne, PA, 10/7-11, David Fix, (717) 203-4152, david.fix@reunionplannersplus.com; **Swordfish SSN 579**, Charleston, SC, 5/6-9, George Hudson, (971) 241-8858, gdhudson@aol.com; **Tidewater AD 31**, Charleston, SC, 9/12-16, Russell Agee, (417) 759-2860, rdmlagee@gmail.com; **Woodrow Wilson SSBN 624**, North Charleston, SC, 5/2-5, Melvin Cross, (360) 830-4224, mcross@telebyte.com

LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

Post 24, FL: Henry C. Ward Jr.
Post 111, FL: Richard Hirsch
Post 47, MA: Walter R. McGrath, Stephen J. Napolitano
Post 1812, NY: Zachary Callahan, Frances Cottone, Irene S. Haber, Peter O. Marino

IN SEARCH OF

1/503rd, 173rd Abn Inf Bde Med Plt (Kubasaki, Okinawa, 1963-1964), James Hintzke, (920) 982-3294, jlea1944@att.net
 1st Bn 3rd Arty 2nd Armd Div (Fort Hood, TX, 1968-1970), Roger Marcotte, (609) 412-4137, rogercotte@comcast.net
 1st LAAM Bn Hawk Msl Firing Btry (Hill 647, Monkey Mountain, Da Nang, Vietnam, Jan 1969-Pullout), Jimmy Dyson, (334) 587-2168
 2nd Mobile Photo Supply & Maint Unit (England, France & Germany, 1945), Virgil Quattrocchi (716) 484-8198, writeone@twc.com
 3rd LAAM Bn Delta Btry (Cherry Point, NC, 1968-1971), Jimmy Dyson, (334) 587-2168

55th Avn Co 8th Army (K-16 Army Airfield, Korea, 1962-1964), Patrick McCarthy, (513) 742-1032, schoolmom2@aol.com
 74th Ord Co (SD) & 61st Ord Grp Baseball Team (Fort Bliss, TX, Jan 1962-Aug 1964), Kenneth Ruben, (412) 341-8455
 82nd MP Co (Fort Bragg, NC, 1971-1972), Randy Radford, (301) 461-4525, radfordr@verizon.net
 809th Eng Co (Karlsruhe, Germany, 1966-1968), Roger Terpening, (309) 972-5531
 1607th Comm & Electronics Sqdn (Dover AFB, 1961-1964), Joel Gray, (517) 449-7076, 1607thcomm.elect@gmail.com
 APC Personnel (1942-1946), Howard Brighton, (517) 882-7871
 Basic Cbt Tng Unit E-1-2 (Fort Dix, NJ, Jan-Feb 1971), Randy Radford, (301) 461-4525, radfordr@verizon.net
 Co 513 (NTC San Diego, Aug 1965), Allen Throm, (620) 366-1512, palal6872@gmail.com
 Co 1187 (Great Lakes NTS, July-Sept 20, 1946), Howard Brighton, (517) 882-7871
 Flt 2579 (Bks 1404, Lackland AFB, TX, Jan-Mar 1948), Andrew Klith, (239) 332-3384, awklith@embarqmail.com
 Fort Riley Soccer Team 5th Army Soccer Tournament (Fort Bliss, TX, 1971), Richard Bravo, (619) 948-4455
 NAS Brunswick, ME (1945-2011), Paul Sniffen, paulsniffen@yahoo.com
 NAS Quonset Point, RI (1945-1990), Paul Sniffen, paulsniffen@yahoo.com
 Plt 295 (1951), James Woody, (814) 322-3266
 Plt 391 (Parris Island, SC, 1969), Thomas Blitchington, (803) 646-7072
 Transportation School OCS Bravo Co Class 13-67 (Fort Eustis, VA, Jan-June 1967), John Shaver, (941) 753-9058, shaverjohn42@gmail.com
 USNTC Hall of Fame Co 442 (1959), Paul Sniffen, paulsniffen@yahoo.com

VF-31 (All Shops, 1970-1973), Dan Daly, (563) 744-3731, dandaly2010@hotmail.com

TAPS

Franklin H. Britton, Dept. of District of Columbia. Dept. Cmdr. 1962-1963, Nat'l Pilgrimage Cmte. Memb. 1953-1956, Nat'l Law & Order Cmte. Memb. 1956-1959, Nat'l Child Welfare Cmsn. Area B Memb. 1959-1962, Nat'l Rehab. Cmsn. Area B Memb. 1962-1970, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Alt. Memb. 1963-1964, Nat'l Veterans Affairs & Rehab. Cmsn. Memb. 1970-1971 and 1973-1974, Nat'l Veterans Affairs & Rehab. Cmsn. Vice Chmn. 1971-1972 and Nat'l Veterans Affairs & Rehab. Cmsn. 1972-1973.
Charles E. Langley, Dept. of Mississippi. Dept. Cmdr. 1993-1994, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Alt. Memb. 1994-2000, Nat'l Americanism Cncl. Memb. 2010-2015, Nat'l Children & Youth Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 2000-2003, Nat'l Children & Youth Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Chmn. 2003-2010, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 2000-2010, Nat'l Foreign Relations Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1989-1992 and Nat'l Law & Order Cmte. Memb. 1992-2000.
Robert R. Taylor, Dept. of Maryland. Nat'l Sec. Cncl. Memb. 1999-2015.
Marco A. "Tony" Valenzuela, Dept. of Arizona. Dept. Cmdr. 1991-1992, Nat'l Vice Cmdr. 2004-2005, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Alt. Memb. 1996-2000, Nat'l Veterans Employment & Education Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 2000-2001, Nat'l Employment Cmte. Memb. 1987-1992 and 2007-2013, Nat'l Employment & Veterans Preference Cmte. Memb. 2013-2015, Nat'l Exec. Cmte. Memb. 2000-2004, Nat'l Foreign Relations Cncl. Vice Chmn. 1979-1982, Nat'l American Legion Magazine Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 2002-2004, Nat'l Security Cmsn. Liaison Cmte. Memb. 2001-2002 and Nat'l Veterans Affairs & Rehab. Cmsn. Region 7 Memb. 1992-1997.

LEGION SHOPPER

Moving?



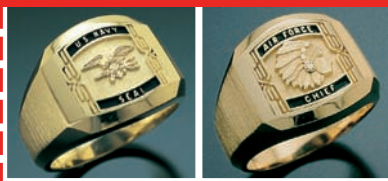
Exclusive Savings for Legion Families!

FREE estimates! Do you qualify for discounts? Call or visit the Legion Member web page today!

800.343.6899
<http://Legion.movingnavi.com>

800.871.8864
<http://Legion.movingallied.com>

Rings to Honor Your Service



Call today for a **FREE** color catalog of over 150 eye-catching Classic Military Rings, plus a Special Report you should read before buying any service ring: **1-573-221-7786** (24 hr. recorded message). Or write: Classic Rings, 1209 Broadway, Dept. A-1115, Hannibal MO 63401. Code A-1115

www.ClassicRings.com

DIGITAL HEARING SALE

5 year warranty **\$339.95** Any size or style **NEW! OPEN FIT TECHNOLOGY** Most Brands

Made in the U.S.A. **\$249.95 to \$499.95** none higher

FREE Telephone Hearing Test
 FREE Consultation with Technician
FREE TRIAL • FREE S&H

Repairs \$77⁰⁰ Since 1981

Hearing ONE • 1-800-249-4163
 100 Main St., Marty, SD 57361
NOT AVAILABLE IN WA

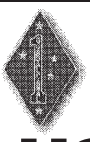
U.S. MILITARY MEDALS & RIBBONS

FREE COLOR CATALOG!
 TOLL FREE TEL: 800-864-5062
VETS SUPPLY LINE
 10550 CO RD 81, #218
 MAPLE GROVE, MN 55369
WEB SITE: www.MilitaryVetsPX.com

DOG TAGS **PATCHES**

CUSTOM BALL CAPS-NAVY SHIP CAPS

HAT PINS • MEDALS • BUCKLES • PATCHES • BALL CAPS



- **FREE COLOR CATALOG**
- 2500+ Military Designs
- Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines
- **Call now! Toll-free!**
- **1-888-223-1159**
- Custom pins & patches available. Dealer inquiries welcome.

HONORS
 by Hoover's Mfg., Co.
 P.O. Box 547AL, Peru, IL 61354
 Fax: 1-815-223-1499
 Email: dave@hmchonors.com
 Website: www.hmchonors.com

Martins FLAG CO., LLC



1210 1st Ave. North - Fort Dodge, IA 50501
800-992-3524
www.martinsflag.com

SINCE 1895 "Ask for our Colorful Catalog Today!"
ALL U.S. FLAGS ARE QUALITY MADE IN THE USA

MEN'S WIDE SHOES



200+ styles
FREE catalog

EEE-EEEEEE, SIZES 5-20

www.wideshoes.com
 1-800-992-WIDE • Hitchcock Shoes
 Dept. 5T5 Hingham, MA 02043

He does the work of three men: Larry, Moe and Curly.

A MAN checked into a rundown motel.

"The room is \$18 a night," the manager said.

"It's \$8 if you make your own bed."

"I can do that," the man said.

"Great. I'll get you some nails and wood."

A TRUCK overturned while transporting several hundred copies of a thesaurus. The newspaper reported that onlookers were "overwhelmed, stunned, amazed, gobsmacked, astonished, bewildered and dumbfounded."

A SAILING INSTRUCTOR who had been running his students ragged asked one, "If a fellow sailor fell off the side of the ship, what would you do?"

"Easy, sir," the student replied. "I'd call 'Man overboard!' and follow procedure."

"And what would you do if one of your superiors fell overboard?" the instructor asked.

The soaked and aching student replied, "Which one?"

THE PAPERLESS OFFICE will become a reality about the same time as the paperless toilet.

A MAN walked into a bar, ordered four shots of expensive Scotch, and downed them one right after the other.

The bartender said, "You seem to be in a hurry."

"You would be too if you had what I have," the man said morosely.

"What have you got?"

"Fifty cents."



"It parks itself, so I assumed it would pay the meter, too."



"I do not ignore your emails. I personally delete each and every one!"



"I'm the only deity this house requires."

POLITICS is the art of looking for trouble, finding it, misdiagnosing it and then applying the wrong remedies.

A COWBOY strolled out of a saloon, ready to ride out of town. Then he saw that someone had painted his horse green from head to hoof. The cowboy stormed back into the saloon.

"Who painted my horse green?" he demanded.

"I did," said a huge, mean-looking guy, rising to his feet.

"Well," the cowboy replied, "I just wanted to let you know that the first coat's dry."

"NOW THAT SOME economic sanctions are being lifted, Iranian citizens are apparently clamoring for Western products like iPhones. We should have just sent them iPhones in the first place. Then they'd never get any work done on a nuclear weapon." – Seth Meyers

HISTORIC 2015



VAULT RELEASE

2015-W \$100 AMERICAN LIBERTY 24k GOLD HIGH RELIEF



- ✓ 1 oz. Pure 24k Gold
- ✓ Limited Mintage Only 50,000
- ✓ America's First Ever \$100 Face Value Gold Coin
- ✓ Government Issued US Legal Tender
- ✓ Struck at the West Point Mint

FREE!

2015 US Marshall
1 oz. Silver Dollar

with each 24k Gold
American Liberty
purchased



SOLD OUT AT THE U.S. MINT!

**LIMITED SUPPLY
ORDER YOURS TODAY!**

As a special thank you to the men and women who answered the call of **DUTY** it is our **HONOR** to thank you for your brave service to our great **COUNTRY** with a **FREE** 2015 US Marshall 1 oz. Silver Dollar for each 24k Gold Liberty purchased.

**2015 GOLD & SILVER
AMERICAN EAGLES**



Official Government Issued Legal Tender Coins • Fully Backed by the United States Government
Minted at the United States West Point Mint • IRA Eligible

**\$5 Gold Eagles
\$124.00**

**\$1 Silver Eagles
\$18.00**

Prices subject to change. No dealers, please. Offer limited to first time orders.
Due to limited supply, offer may be withdrawn or reduced at any time.



UNITED STATES
PRECIOUS METALS.



FREE SHIPPING ON ORDERS OF
\$500 OR MORE

VAULT CODE AL1509

(855) 203-6320

COMFORT AT A PRICE THAT WON'T KICK YOU IN THE PANTS!

360° Stretch Waistband!

Cadet Blue

**More G-I-V-E in the waist...
You can take comfort in that!**

We went all the way with a FULL 360° of s-t-r-e-t-c-h waist comfort! Never a pinch or a bind! And if that wasn't enough, we also made our famous Casual Joe® slacks of the BEST cotton/polyester poplin that's easy machine wash & wear... wrinkle resistant, too! 2 deep front & 2 button-secure back pockets, sturdy snap closure, hefty belt loops, inside locker loop, reinforced bar tacks, and double seams for extra strength and durability. **Order now!**

Grey

Burgundy

Charcoal

Khaki

Black

Green

Brown

Navy

**9 Colors!
XS Inseams!
Waists to 60!**

THIS AD ONLY!

FREE SHIPPING!

Casual Joe

100% COMFORT

SLACKS 2 pairs for only 29⁹⁹*

3 for 43.47 4 for 56.45 5 for 68.37

☐ Haband #1 Bargain Place, Jessup, PA 18434-1834

☐ Card # _____ Exp.: ____/____/____

☐ BLAIR Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____

☐ Visa Address _____ Apt. # _____

☐ MasterCard City & State _____ Zip _____

☐ Discover® Phone/Email _____

☐ AmEx

☐ Check

FREE! SHIPPING! I enclose \$_____ purchase price plus \$5.99 toward shipping. Please add applicable state & local sales tax for the following states: AZ, GA, MA, NJ, PA, WI, & WV.

On-Line Quick Order

	7AT-075K2	WHAT WAIST?	WHAT INSEAM?	HOW MANY?
5J	CADET BLUE			
06	GREY			
EB	BURGUNDY			
07	CHARCOAL			
2E	KHAKI			
01	BLACK			
11	GREEN			
04	BROWN			
03	NAVY			

FOR MAXIMUM COMFORT, ORDER YOUR USUAL WAIST SIZE!

Waists: 32 34 36 38 40 42 44

*Big Men (\$5 more per pair):

46 48 50 52 54 56 58 60

Inseams: XS(25-26) S(27-28) M(29-30)

L(31-32) XL(33-34)

(XL inseam available in 32-44 waists only)

**100% Satisfaction Guaranteed
or Full Refund of merchandise purchase price!**

When you pay by check, you authorize us to use information from your check to clear it electronically. Funds may be withdrawn from your account as soon as the same day we receive your payment, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution.

Imported

HABAND
QUALITY & COMFORT

For Faster Service Call: 1-800-543-4810 or visit www.Haband.com/bestdeals